



If Walt Disney were alive today, he would warmly reassure you that – from experience – there is no

direct path to success. That your accomplishments depend to a large extent on your dedication and willingness to persevere.

While everyone knows the iconic brand of Disney, the story of how Walt Disney created the empire is very inspiring. As a young man, Walt Disney was fired from a local newspaper as his boss thought he lacked creativity. After a failed animation, the company that he had founded went under. Barely able to pay his bills, he even ate dog food to survive.

With his last few dollars, Walt Disney made his way to

Hollywood to try and make it big. Unfortunately, his early time in Hollywood was just as bad. He constantly faced rejection and seemed destined to never succeed when he was told Mickey Mouse would fail.

But Walt Disney persisted and went on to grow the company to include amusement parks, feature films, and is now known as a cultural icon. If he did not persevere, we would not have Mickey Mouse, nor the cheers and joys of the World of Disney magic, where dreams are possible to come true when we dare to try! And we can

almost say – what would the world be like without Disney and Mickey Mouse?

Looking around us, with the COVID situation going like a roller coaster, it is easy to get discouraged, just like how Walt Disney initially did. It is also easy for us to go into a panic mode. However, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage us to look at things from another perspective.

What can we be grateful for through this pandemic? I want therefore, to thank our teachers, staff and you! You are all writing a story of perseverance!

Because of COVID, we could not go about school the same way. No assemblies in the hall every morning, no physical CCAs and so on. It is so easy to give up and not try anything. But our teachers chose to be creative: Morning Assembly and Early Bird Sessions were held over Zoom so that we can still experience the school spirit and learn new things together! We conducted e-CCAs so that you can continue to acquire new skills and “bond” with friends! Teachers come to school earlier daily to check on you and ensure you are well. They

Principal's Message

are going the extra mile to care for you. Such are our Marymount teachers – when challenges come their way, they rise above and make the best of every situation. They make sure you do not lose out in your opportunity to learn and grow. Thank you, dear teachers and staff, for being the role models and bearers of hope to our girls!

For the Primary 1s, you had to start school without the usual orientation to learn about the School. But you did so well. You were not afraid! You made friends and adapted to the new environment quickly, learning to be independent, and with such joy and energy!

For the Primary 2s, you had to launch into Home-based Learning last year just after a few months in school when you were in Primary 1. Look how you have adapted and continued to grow in confidence! You did not give up but responded with zeal!

For our Primary 3s, you had to transit to a new class, not having the chance to really “see” one another’s faces! But our teachers are telling me that you are

MARYMOUNT
CONVENT SCHOOL
20 Marymount Road
Singapore 297754



always ready to lend a hand and cheer your friends on, building positive class spirit despite the less ideal circumstance.

You rose to the occasion!

For our Primary 4s, the demands of the curriculum are increasing because you are moving towards Upper Primary. Our teachers shared that you are growing in maturity, demonstrating much self-discipline in different areas of your life. You also find ways to encourage your friends who have encountered challenges! So wonderful!

For the Primary 5s, we had to conduct the P5 camp very differently. But you were very appreciative, gave it your best shot and made the best out of the situation! You bonded very well as a new class and emerged strong. The teachers and instructors gave very good feedback on your positive attitude!

For the Primary 6s, you have been preparing for the PSLE since P5 under new circumstances but I can see you thriving like never before! You have acquired

skills that no other situation could have given

you, because you chose to be receptive and have built resilience. You are ready to soar to greater heights!

Echoing the words of the NDP song 2021, 'The Road Ahead':

"See this island, every grain of sand; hear this anthem, it's the voices of our friends! Come whatever on the road ahead, we did it before and we'll do it again!"

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'The Road Ahead'
- NDP theme song 2021

We will persevere in doing what we can and always be grateful to God, counting our blessings and be that blessing that only we can be!

Grateful for all of you,
Mrs Allison Lim

Sources:

<https://www.goalcast.com/2018/01/17/walt-disneys-life-story/>

<https://www.inspireyoursuccess.com/inspiring-perseverance-stories/>

RACIAL HARMONY

Imagine this: a war-torn Singapore with civil unrest due to a single racist comment that was made. Contrast this with a peaceful, harmonious Singapore. What a huge difference, right? We celebrated Racial Harmony Day on 21 July 2021, but what exactly is racial harmony, and why does it matter so much to us in Singapore?

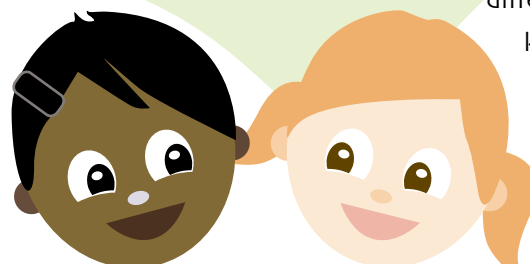
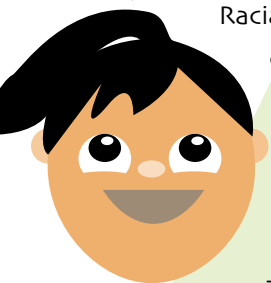
Racial harmony to me is when people of different cultures and races live together peacefully. Being a multi-racial and multi-religious society, racial harmony is vital for Singapore's social cohesion. This involves the whole community, regardless of race or religion.

Harmony is not easy to achieve as we do not always understand the practices of other cultures. Often

times, we are quick to judge or stereotype people based on their outward appearances or the food they eat. This is unfair to the person who is being judged, and may cause him/her to assume that just because one person of a particular race stereotyped them, everyone of that race will be just like that.

Being misinformed about the different cultures and practices of all races in Singapore can lead to serious misunderstandings and divisions in society, like the racial riots in 1964 between the Chinese and Malays. I am sure that nobody wants this incident to repeat itself.

We cannot be rid of judgment in this world, but we can put aside our differences and make friends with people of different races and religions. Get to know them and before you know it, they might even be



your besties! It takes time and effort to build trust and acceptance between races and religions to protect the common space that we have. That is why we have Racial Harmony Day, to remind us that racial

harmony is extremely important to Singaporeans.

Avril Lee En Xuan
5 Humility



Senyuman terukir di bibir saya tatkala melihat video tarian yang dihantar Cikgu Naz melalui 'WhatsApp'. Beliau mahu kami sekelas belajar menari mengikut rentak tarian lagu Hari Raya. Ketika itu, fikiran saya menerawang jauh hingga ke Jakarta.

Saya memang gemar menari dan pernah memasuki pertandingan tarian di sana. Sememangnya banyak kenangan manis yang telah saya alami. Namun, menari dengan rakan-rakan di Singapura amat berbeza. Lebih-lebih lagi, kami perlu menari memakai pelitup. Walaupun kami berasa kurang selesa, kami perlu patuhi langkah-langkah keselamatan demi membendung penularan Covid-19. Oleh kerana itu, saya sering terlupa posisi yang sudah ditetapkan dan juga gerak-geri tarian. Langkah-langkah untuk tarian itu agak mudah tetapi kami perlu mengulangi rakaman berkali-kali.

Walaupun kami berasa letih, kami amat berpuas hati dengan hasil rakaman kami. Rupa-rupanya, tarian kami akan digabungkan dengan rakaman tarian semua peringkat. Saya berasa sangat terharu dengan usaha yang dilakukan oleh guru-guru Melayu Islam di sekolah ini. Pelbagai rakaman video sempena sambutan Hari Raya digabungkan untuk tontonan semua melalui 'Zoom' pada 10 Mei 2021.



Selain dari pengalaman menari, saya juga ingin berkongsi mengenai pengalaman saya dapat bertemu dengan penulis mapan, Encik Peter Augustine Goh pada 8 dan 15 April 2021. Nama beliau memang harum di persada penulisan di Singapura. Walaupun, saya sudah pelajari beberapa teknik penulisan di kelas, kami sangat berbesar hati dapat mendengar sendiri pengalaman penulis itu menulis dengan menggunakan kepelbagaian teknik untuk menghasilkan buku cerpen dan novel yang menarik.

Saya akan cuba mengaplikasikan semua yang saya pelajari di bengkel penulisan itu semasa menulis

Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri

karangan saya. Semoga dengan ilmu yang ditimba, saya akan dapat meningkatkan lagi keyakinan diri untuk terus maju.

Saya juga ingin berkongsi tentang sesuatu yang agak tidak disangka-sangka. Pada 21 Jun 2021, ibu saya telah menerima panggilan dari pegawai Kelab Masyarakat Toa Payoh Selatan. Dia meninggalkan pesanan agar saya mengambil sijil, hadiah baucar dan buku kompilasi pantun. Rupa-rupanya, anugerah itu adalah hasil daripada usaha yang saya lakukan pada akhir tahun lalu. Kami digalakkan untuk menyertai peraduan pantun itu. Walaupun saya sudah lupa dengan peraduan tersebut, saya amat terkejut dan teruja apabila mengetahui bahawa hasil tulisan itu telah membuatkan saya menjadi juara. Saya amat terharu. Saya juga terkejut pantun saya berada di bahagian yang paling hadapan di dalam buku kompilasi pantun itu. Saya juga menghargai usaha pihak penganjur untuk memasukkan hasil penulisan rakan-rakan di Sekolah MCS ini.

Akhir sekali, saya harap perkongsian saya menjadi inspirasi untuk rakan-rakan saya. Semoga segala ilmu yang didapati dapat diaplikasikan dengan sempurna.

Adelinda Tiesha Jumari
5 Gratitude



Creative Writing - Haikus

Some of our Primary 4 pupils have been flexing their creative writing muscles, to convey their thoughts and feelings in the form of Haikus. The Haiku is a short poem of just 3 lines. What is special is that the first line has to have 5 syllables; the second line, 7 syllables and the last line, 5 syllables again. The topic of the haiku usually focusses on images of the natural world. Check out the interesting haikus below!

Rainforests

Tall trees stand while birds
Fly freely, this place, full of
Sounds, is amazing

Amelie Koh
4 Humility

Cherry Blossoms

Pink, white and calming,
Its sweet smell wafts through the air
In the end, it wilts

Danielle Wong
4 Zeal

To My Bestie

Fun and kind are you
You, like autumn and thunder
You are my best friend

Gracias Kaitlyn Lourdes
4 Gratitude

Wildfire

Blinding, sizzling, fierce
Burns fragile things to ashes
Strenuous to escape

Du Jia Yan
4 Humility

A Tribute to Mum

Roots of every plant
Supporter of everyone
And she is my MUM

Tiffany Tan
4 Humility

Venus Flytrap

Out in the forests,
I lay in wait for new prey,
To swallow them whole.

Allyssa Ho
4 Humility

Of Nature

Flowers near the tree,
Butterflies are approaching,
Pleasing to the eye.

Anna Izabelle
4 Compassion

Ocean

Rolling against the sand,
As far as the horizon,
Into the unknown

Maryam
4 Humility

On Cats

Gentle in the day,
Stealthy and sly in the night,
Wild or harmful one

Annie Yan
4 Gratitude

My Mother

Standing strong does she
Like trees swaying in the breeze
Never falling down.

Kayla Khoo
4 Zeal

Making Time and Space for God



This year, my schoolmates and I had the privilege to attend the Catholic Education Conference 2021. The theme of this year's conference was "Celebrating, Encountering, Creating our God Experience." Through the conference, we learnt how to encounter God more deeply in our daily lives by ensuring we make time and space for God.

While 'space' often refers to physical space, such as the prayer room, at Marymount Convent School, 'space' also refers to the time set aside every day for reflection and prayer, such as morning prayers during online Assembly and Sacred Time at noon.

I have learnt to have some time for myself through prayer and to reflect on my day. The use of sacred space

has increased my spirituality. It also helps me to be more aware of others' feelings, words and actions. This experience has also taught me how to work better with others, and to use kind words often.

At this year's Foundress' Day Mass, I recall the priest talking about Saint Mary Euphrasia's virtues and good deeds, and it touched me deeply. It inspired me to become a better person and to be always willing to help others and do great deeds like Saint Mary Euphrasia. Mother Foundress' spirituality comes alive for me all the time, through reflection and prayer.

Dimafelis Cahlian Jasriel Tayo
5 Integrity

