

Punctuation

is

Powerful

An English professor wrote the words...

“a woman without her man is nothing”

...on the whiteboard and asked his students to punctuate it correctly.

All the males in the class wrote: “A woman, without her man, is nothing.”

All the females in the class wrote:

“A woman: without her, man is nothing.”

Punctuation is powerful.

Punctuation with perspectives

Punctuation *noun*

The marks, such as full stop, comma, and brackets, used in writing to separate sentences and their elements and to clarify meaning.

Dear girls, 2021 is coming to an end. It is just like a full stop at the end of a sentence. Punctuation as it is. So as the year comes to an end, let us take a look back this year. If I asked you to share, what would you tell me?

Some may say: COVID-19 did not go away! We have a lot more cases in the community! We have to do HBL... again! We cannot have CCAs!!!

Others might shout out: We have caring teachers who planned Zoom lessons to check that we were fine when our parents needed to return to work. We have our aunts and uncles who cleaned up the school even more. We have our frontline workers, nurses and doctors and social workers etc.. who resiliently pressed on to take care of those who were unwell.

Perspectives. See as you want to see. Isn't it true? Many things are happening and it is really up to us to choose to see things from a positive perspective. To render encouragement and to count our blessings. What do you want to see and therefore offer as a result of what you choose to see?

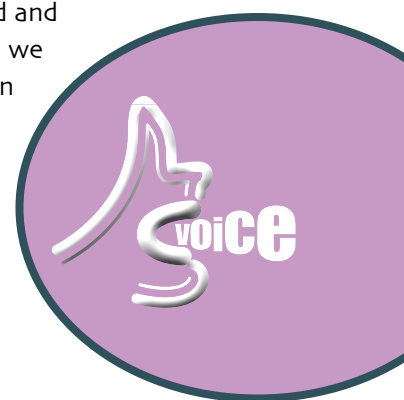
Reflection and make meaning

Another part of the definition of “punctuation” – to clarify meaning.

My precious girls, I would like you to take time to reflect during this holiday. Looking at the eventful 2021 (from 2020 actually), what does it mean to you? How has it impacted you? What can you learn from it? How can you, in whatever small ways possible, make a difference through such a challenging period? The value in focus for 2021 is ‘Perseverance’. Did you grow in this value? Take time to clarify for yourself and make meaning.

What is important is not just about looking back and then putting a full stop; but rather, let that reflection take us to a new beginning in 2022. Find time to explore your passions, have fun going about your hobbies, immerse yourself in the world of beautiful stories through reading. Build your physical capacities through simple sporting activities and good dietary habits. See how you will be recharged and refreshed. As such, it won't just be a full stop, it will then be a colon (:.) and we will say that we have learnt what we can, rested and recharged and come what may, we are ready to learn, to have joy in learning and make a difference where we are, in 2022!

Principal's Message



MARYMOUNT
CONVENT SCHOOL
20 Marymount Road
Singapore 297754





The Primary 5 Prefects would like to share their valuable experiences in planning and executing their special segment during the Teachers' Day celebration.

We started our planning with the use of Design Thinking strategies, which

were taught by our teachers early this year. One stage of the Design Thinking process is to learn how to empathise with others. Hence, we have tried to imagine ourselves as MCS teachers and think of what would excite us.

After a few weeks of discussion, we came up with the following items for our teachers. They are the Chill Pills, a Kahoot! quiz and a video to show our appreciation for our teachers. The idea of Chill Pills came about as we understand that our teachers need to handle

many things and they may feel stressed, worried or tired at times. Therefore, we wanted them to have the Chill Pills whenever they felt drained and hopefully it would remind them of our constant support and gratitude for them. As for the Kahoot! quiz, it was

a game segment to quiz teachers, testing how well they know us!

Interestingly, many of our teachers really knew us very well! Lastly, we rounded up our segment for the celebration with a video of appreciation for our teachers, to show our deepest appreciation for them.

The entire journey of putting up all the items was fun and valuable. However, it was not without its

challenges. We faced many difficulties especially while trying to film the videos. As it was our first time doing it, we found it a challenge to try to capture every scene correctly in just one take. Some scenes had to be taken a few times because the "actors" were either back-facing the audience or our dialogue was not audible. Despite facing all these challenges, all the prefects overcame them together by helping each other to come up with creative solutions. As a result of good teamwork and effort, we successfully came up with the items for Teachers' Day.

To challenge ourselves further, a few of us (Dahye, Phapassorn, Celeste and Gauri) volunteered to be the hosts to lead our segment. We hoped that through this hosting experience, we would be able to learn more things. When we were done with making our videos and packing the Chill Pills, we started rehearsing as hosts. Initially, we felt very nervous and excited. We also faced some problems along the way, such as not being able to memorise the script, technical issues with the 'live' Zoom session and keeping our segment within the time limit provided.

Thankfully, on the day itself, we felt less jittery and gained confidence when our teachers, Ms Suah Jun and Ms Jasmine Tan, encouraged us. Despite that, we still looked through the script multiple times before the segment started, to ensure that we did not forget our speech. As we were calm and composed, we delivered our segment well. This entire experience was really a memorable one. We had a lot of fun and we became closer after working with each other for a long time.

To sum it all up, we had a great time preparing the Prefects' items for Teachers' Day and we really hope to do it again next year!

Yours sincerely,
The Primary Five Prefects

Teachers' Day Celebration 2021



சீராட்டுவோம் செம்மொழித் தமிழை!

எனக்குத் தமிழ்மொழி தொடர்பான போட்டிகளில் பங்குபெறுவது என்றால் கொள்ளை ஆசை. ஒவ்வொரு ஆண்டும் நான் பள்ளிகளுக்கிடையே நடத்தப்படும் போட்டிகளில் பங்கு பெற்று வெற்றியும் பெற்றிருக்கிறேன். சென்ற ஆண்டு மட்டும் சற்று வித்தியாசமாக இருந்தது. கோவிட்-19 கிருமித் தொற்றால், போட்டிகள் மெய்நிகர் வழியாக நடைபெற்றன. இந்த ஆண்டும் அவ்வாறே நடந்தது. இந்த ஆண்டு மூன்றாம் தவணையில் நான் இரண்டு போட்டிகளில் பங்குபெற்றேன். கோலாம் ஆயர் சமூக மன்றம் பேச்சுப் போட்டியை நடத்தியது. தமிழ்மொழி பண்பாட்டுக் கழகத்தின் ஆதரவில் ஒளவையார் விழா கதை சொல்லும் போட்டி நடத்தப்பட்டது. எனது அனுபவத்தை உங்களுடன் பகிர்ந்துகொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்.



வீட்டில் எனது தாயார் போட்டிகளுக்கான கருத்துகளையும் கதையையும் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தார். நானும் அவருடன் சேர்ந்து அவற்றைப் படித்துப் புரிந்துகொண்டேன். பள்ளிப் பாடங்கள், புறப்பாட நடவடிக்கைகள் ஆகியவற்றிற்கு இடையே இந்த போட்டிகளுக்குத் தயார் செய்வது எனக்குச் சவாலாக இருந்தது. ஆனால் அதைப் பெற்றோரின் துணையுடன் சமாளித்துக் கொண்டேன். நேரம் கிடைத்தபோதெல்லாம் நான் பேச்சுப் போட்டிக்கான கருத்துகளையும் கதை சொல்லும் போட்டிக்கான கதையையும் விடாமுயற்சியுடன் மனனம் செய்தேன். எனது பெற்றோர் எனக்கு உறுதுணையாக இருந்தார்கள்.

பள்ளியில் எனது தமிழ் ஆசிரியர் என்னைத் தொடர்ந்து ஊக்குவித்தார். அவர், “தாரிணி, உன்னால் முடியும்!” என்று கூறி என்னை உற்சாகப்படுத்தியது எனக்கு மனவுறுதியை அளித்தது. அவர், நான் மனனம் செய்ததை ஒப்பிக்க சொல்லி எனக்குப் பள்ளியில் பயிற்சி அளித்தார். போட்டிகள் நடைபெற்ற நாட்களிலிலும் அவர் வாழ்த்துச் செய்திகள் அனுப்பி உற்சாகப்படுத்தினார்.

நான் வெற்றிக் கோப்பைகளை வென்றது எனக்கு எல்லையில்லா ஆனந்தத்தை அளித்தது. போட்டியில் வெற்றி பெறாவிட்டாலும், போட்டிக்காக கற்றது வீண்போகாது. அந்தக் கற்றலின் மூலம் பள்ளி பாடங்களைச் சிறப்பாக செய்யலாம். மேலும் நம்மிடத்தில் தன்னம்பிக்கை வளரும்.

P6 Creative

Mine

But your green eyes, they sucked me in.
Got me paralysed, heart's beating quick
Wish I could call you mine.

Don't know what this feeling is called.
Friendship or could it be more?
Can it be more?

You flash your cheeky grin
Can't help but stare a bit.
Wish I could be yours.

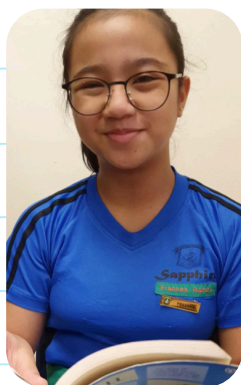
I try to play it cool,
But I know you're not a fool,
My last wish is to call you mine.

Mine.

Frances Ramos
6 Perseverance

Congratulations to Frances Ramos, for winning a Silver Award in The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2021.

The theme for this year is 'Community in the Commonwealth', and Frances' entry shone brightly among the 25 648 entries gathered.



Writing

House

She sent a message through the sea-scented air to a tiny island near the coast.

On that island sat a tiny house in which, she believed, lived a woman.

Sadly, the message, like many others, sat on the abandoned doorstep.

A pitiful sight to behold, a house with letters strewn across the doorstep, all untouched.

The newest addition was a bouquet of carnations and lilies.

After that, no more letters were sent as finally, both were reunited.

Sophie Yew
6 Perseverance

Have some fun thinking about the sequence of events in this short story.

- Why do you think no more new letters were sent?
- What is the significance of carnations and lilies?



Artwork by Sophie Yew

abc

Creative Writing

My Best Memories of Marymount

As the school year winds to a close, some of our Primary 6 pupils took a walk down memory lane to recall what made their school lives special.

Vera Lim, 6 Perseverance

My best memories are of the fun learning activities organised by the teachers, such as WELL and Library activities. I vividly remember doing outdoor cooking with my friends, and even learning how to read a map. I am sure few other schools would have allowed students to experience this. I cherish

the last weeks that I have in school, where I can still see my friends from different classes.

Ruhi Kanade, 6 Compassion

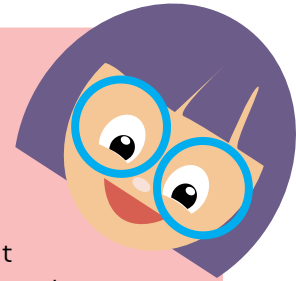
I came to Marymount in Primary 3. Although I was unfamiliar with my new environment, I felt right at home on the first day due to everyone's friendliness. For me, some of the best memories I made at this school would be during lessons. It sounds strange, but it is true. Everyone in class is very cheerful, which makes studying for exams not that stressful. Occasionally, some students or teachers would

squeeze in a joke and lighten the mood. To end off, I just want to say - Thank you, Marymount! I'm going to miss you.



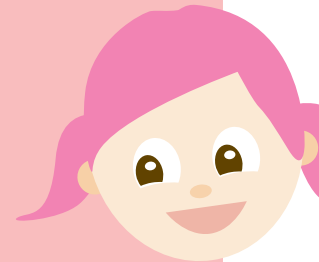
Zhang Chengcheng, 6 Compassion

I entered the big Marymount family three years ago. Having left my old life in China, I found it hard to adapt to my new environment and felt insecure. I did not have any friends and was worried about being left out. Happily, my concerns turned out to be unnecessary as I made a lot of friends. My best memory of Marymount is the Primary 4 camp at Sentosa - my very first camping experience. Although I was unfamiliar with staying out overnight, the camp was exciting and educational. I had a great time interacting and bonding with my friends. Marymount, thank you for all that you have done! I will certainly miss you!



Cara Yee, 6 Compassion

My best memory that is firmly engraved in my mind is the Primary 1 picnic. That was such a long time ago! I remember my classmates and I working together to make the prettiest flag for our class, trying in vain to win the hula-hoop competition and sharing all the scrumptious snacks we brought. That was when I truly experienced what the values-filled Marymount spirit was about. As I move on to secondary school, this is one of those memories I will treasure forever. Thank you, dear Marymount.



Lim Yann Wen, 6 Compassion

I have a lot of good memories from MCS. When I was in Primary 3 and 4, I met a teacher who called herself 'Cruella'. She taught me in a special and fun way. Besides that, I had a Maths teacher whom I nicknamed 'Professor McGonagall', who was strict but came up with interesting games to play after exams. She made learning Maths fun and helped me to improve tremendously. And then there was Arts Galore in Primary 5, where we learned how to work with others to achieve a greater goal. I want to say - Thank you, MCS! You are a great part of my life!