



SKH WEI LUN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wei Lun Creative Chronicle

INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE

POETRY

DOORWAYS TO
ADVENTURE

MY FAVOURITE FAIRY
TALE CHARACTER



An Elephant Community Press Publication

Welcome to SKH Wei Lun Primary School's *Wei Lun Creative Chronicle* magazine for the 2021-2022 school year. We hope you enjoy reading these pieces of creative writing by P.1-6 students—winners of our school English writing competitions and writers in our English Creative Writing Club.

In this issue, enjoy fairy tales, a variety of poems, and stories about the discovery of mysterious doors. Turn the page and let your imagination take you on an adventure!

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About the Wei Lun Creative Writing Club

As a child, I always found myself making books and drawing comics. I enjoyed making up stories and writing them down in messy pencil or marker. Even today, I still enjoy writing, and hopefully I'm a little better at it now than when I was in primary school. As a child, if I had been given some direction and encouragement with my writing from someone more knowledgeable than me, maybe I'd be a professional writer today.

The intention of the Wei Lun Creative Writing Club is to not only give students who are interested in writing some direction, but to also motivate and encourage their creativity. Being a good writer demands a lot of time and effort, but it also requires a lot of opportunities to build confidence and be creative.

This year, with the help of Elephant Community Press, a creative writing programme and publisher of student writing, our creative writing club began working on a curriculum that would help students focus their writing abilities. We did this through a combination of online workshops led by Christine Choi from Elephant Community Press and Wei Lun English teachers Mr Church and Ms Kelly, and in-person writing sessions in the computer lab at school.

The curriculum was broken into two parts: poetry and fiction writing. For poetry, we focused on different types of poems such as rhyming poems, descriptive free verse poems, and descriptive list poems. Some of these pieces can be seen in this magazine. After we completed working on poetry, we moved onto fiction writing, where our main focus was building atmosphere. Building atmosphere gave students the awareness of how to create a setting in a story and make it convey a particular feeling. There was a great deal of emphasis placed on "showing" why a place feels a certain way instead of "telling" the reader that it does. You will be able to find pieces related to this topic in the magazine under "Doorways to Adventure."

Wei Lun has many promising writers and we hope that we were able to show that through our efforts in the creative writing club this year. I believe that we have many students who have real potential as writers and that can be seen in the work from our writing club members as well as the winning pieces from our annual writing competition.

I look forward to continuing to work with our young authors and I hope that our teachers and parents will encourage their efforts.

- Mr Church

My Signature Hotpot

By Sophia Samaroo (6C)

Everyone's waiting for the best hotpot made
by the one and only-me.
But I have nothing to cook, not even some
sesame.
I wish I had squid, fishballs and shrimp.
But I'm left with nothing but a wimp!

I'll just cast a spell.
Should it make someone swell?
Maybe I'll put in Dorothy's magical slippers.
I need magical seaweed underwater so I'll go
with my flippers.
Oh my! I think I saw a charm!
Never mind, false alarm.

There's one thing missing...
But wait! I hear someone dissing!
Let me teach him a lesson,
I'm going to start with a question.
Have you tried my signature hotpot?
It's perfect for someone that got caught.
Anyways, where was I?
Oh yes, I need a spell that can make someone
fly.

Ah yes! One last thing, I promise it's worth the
wait.
Wait, my phone is on vibrate.
Stay right there, don't be disobedient,
I must add in my special ingredient.
It creates the taste.
It's from the landfill-waste!

Now I think it's almost ready,
Time to hold your bowls steady!
Mix it all together
The bowl is as light as a feather.
And... done!
This was a lot of fun.
Would you like a taste test?
What's that? You're scared it contains a vest?

This hotpot is magical indeed.
Come try it and you may succeed.
If there is nothing you caught,
This is my signature hotpot.

The Peacock

By Tanya Lai (6B)

A peaceful forest,
"Tweet! Tweet!" the birds sang,
"Bark! Bark!" the foxes chatted,
All the animals heard a noise.
A look behind and they saw her,
Beaks dropped on the floor in shock
Speechless.
How breathtaking, how stunning
she was.

She was dazzling, wearing a
beautiful long train skirt,
Those round crystal clear ocean eyes,
her gorgeous feathers,
All eyes were on her.
She was the star of the show,
the main character.
Jealousy from the other animals
wanting to be her,
But her charming positive energy
filled the entire forest.

She stopped walking.
Suddenly, "Ching!" The skirt opened!
Green like emeralds, blue like diamonds,
yellow like gold,
She continued to walk lightly like a
supermodel,



She was the prettiest work of art,
She was enchanting and mesmerizing,
Seemed too good to be true.
Nobody had ever witnessed such beauty, such elegance,
Her aura— happiness, love and femininity,
Her energy— captivating and mysterious,
So magnificent and show-stopping that it was intimidating.
The lions adored her, squirrels admired her.

A few seconds later, she left,
Leaving every member of the forest awestruck,
Too stunned to speak.
No one could believe their eyes. She was unforgettable.
Koalas thought she was the queen of the forest,
Parrots were still fantasizing and dreaming about her,
Still trying to relive that moment.
Raccoons even went to the spot where she walked,
Hoping to get that energy from her.
Many ran to tell others about this astonishing peacock
Nobody had ever seen before.

Sea Turtle

By Andrea Ho (6B)

Its leathery ancient face is like weathered stones,
Its shell a huge swimming rock
Pushing through the water.
Its flippers are rowing oars
Swimming through the school of
Flamboyant fish.
An antiquated ship sails across the ocean.

It's a venerable emperor gliding
Gracefully through the water, its glassy
Eyes tell a mysterious yet wondrous story,

Everything it's seen throughout its life.
It looks as if another universe lies upon
Those bewitching eyes.

It wanders through the deep blue ocean,
Its golden coral crown bobbing up and down
As it eyes its treasure.
"Shhhhh!" Its swift movement seizes the
Pint-sized jellyfish.
The feast has begun, as the emperor takes its leave
To the coral castle.

The Door

By Karina Law (6C)

I opened my eyes and felt like my whole body hurt. I was lying down and facing a clear blue sky; there were barely any clouds. I sat up and looked around to find that I was sitting on a floating white brick bridge in the blue sky. There were many bottomless big white pillars on the side. I stood up, turned around and found a white door with golden details.

After going through the white door, a blinding white glow forced me to shut my eyes. A few seconds later, I found myself trapped inside of a shooting star! I felt almost like I was falling, but still trapped inside and floating down and down.

"Hello? Are you alive?"

I opened my eyes, feeling dizzy, to see a red bunny-looking girl bending over, checking up on me. She wore a red headband that looked like bunny ears. She had brown leather goggles with gold details. She had beautiful long fluffy brown hair and wore long red socks and white boots.

I crawled back a little and looked around. I appeared to be in a mysterious forest. "W-Where am I?! And who are you?!" I asked in a panicked voice.

"Calm down, I'm Amber, Outrider Amber of the Knights of Favonius! Always here to help," she replied. "What are you doing here? Were you attacked by those monsters? They're never friendly. Anyways, I'll bring you to Mondstadt since you're kinda injured. Let's go!"

Soon, she led me out of the forest and to a large, beautiful citygate.

"Mondstadt, the city of freedom," said Amber. "It's located in this place



statue of some hooded person holding their hands out. In the middle of a big circle pattern in the yellow brick floor, the statue was surrounded by shallow waters. There was also a big building on another platform with a wide brick staircase. Some people were praying in front of the statue.

"Do you see that statue over there?" she asked. "That's Barbatos, an archon that the people of Mondstadt worship. It stands in front of the beautiful cathedral. On the floor, there are letters in a different language marked on the grey rim. The words say 'Gateway to Celestia'. No one knows what that really means," said Amber as she pointed to the statue.

As we went back down, she told me, "Mondstadt is also the city of wine and romance.

There's Angels Share, which is a big two-storeyed tavern run by a grumpy-looking red-haired guy with a ponytail named Diluc. He's not that talkative and, surprisingly, he doesn't like wine! Besides Angels Share, there's Cat's Tail that has cats wandering around while you enjoy the wine and beer!"

"Anyways," she continued, "I'll take you to the Knights Of Favonius headquarters to heal and clean up your wounds and also to make your Teyvat Identity Card!"

In the headquarters, a kind maid helped me clean my wounds. She told me that she was going upstairs to get more medical supplies and quickly left. I was left alone in the empty headquarters, sitting on a red sofa, wondering what was happening to me.

called Teyvat, in the centre of a lake and with a bridge that leads to the gates guarded by kind knights that'll greet you with open arms and a big warm smile."

As I entered the gates, I sniffed the air. Ahh... fresh air... I smiled to myself as if something had forced me to! And what was it? It was the smell of food. I was so hungry that my stomach growled. I looked at Amber with an awkward smile.

"Since you're hungry, maybe I should take you to eat at our local restaurant, The Good Hunter!" suggested Amber.

After we arrived, she ordered some chicken. She told me the name of the dish was 'Sweet Madame'.

After we finished eating, Amber took me to the higher grounds of Mondstadt. There, I saw a big grey

Adventures in a Weird World

By Nina Chen (4B)



I woke up. I checked my watch. It was 3:30. I thought, "What a weird time to wake up. I usually wake up at 6:00." Then I saw a strange wooden door right in front of me, floating in the air. It looked like a castle door. It had a sign on the top: "Beware". I shuddered. There were strange sounds, a cross between someone laughing and someone screaming. There was only one way to know where the sounds came from: explore it.

I packed a backpack, put my watch on, and prepared a baseball bat. Now, I was ready to go! I ran towards the door, opened it, and ran inside.

To be honest, it was something I never expected. A place with bright colours! I walked on the green pasture. It was so lovely! Soon, I was walking through a field of pastel-coloured flowers shaped like trumpets. I saw a sign: "DO NOT PICK THE FLOWERS, PLEASE."

Suddenly, a giant eye appeared on the sign. It blinked a few times and then disappeared. I shuddered and hurried out of the flower field as fast as I could.

Soon, I entered a mushroom forest. I'm not lying. A giant mushroom forest. The mushrooms were as tall as cars. There were polka dot mushrooms, plaid mushrooms, rainbow mushrooms, and mushrooms with every pattern and colour imaginable. Suddenly, eyes appeared on the mushrooms for a split second and disappeared again. "This place is totally crazy!" I shouted. Then I stormed out of the mushroom forest.

I entered a deserted village of small wooden houses. I was just wandering around when a voice behind me said, "Hello, do you want some tea?" I turned around and saw a woman. She had no head, and a giant eye replaced the head.

Creeped out, I still replied, "No thank you. I have water." I continued to walk. Then I turned around, and the strange woman was following me!

"DRINK SOME TEA!" she shouted, holding the cup of tea and waving it. I definitely knew she was evil, so I ran as fast as I could. Too bad that she was right behind my back.

"Nope. I am definitely not going to drink that!" I said while running away from the creepy woman.

Soon, I'd had enough of the cat and mouse games. I picked up some small rocks and began pelting the small rocks at her. She wasn't expecting that, so she hurried away. "Yay me," I said, while watching the creepy woman run away. I saw her muttering to herself.

Later, I was going across a bridge when I heard the same creepy sounds when I first saw the door in my room! "When I first entered this place, I thought this place was very peaceful, but now, this place is getting creepier and creepier every second!" I said to myself.

I was walking on the bridge when I saw a silhouette blocking my way. It was the creepy woman who tried to force me to drink her tea!

"Stop following me! I won't drink your tea! No matter how you try to persuade me to, I won't drink it!" I shouted. That got her very angry. The big eye became red. She ran after me.

"I shouldn't have insulted her. Now I'm in big trouble," I muttered to myself.

I was getting more and more tired, but the strange woman was catching up to me. I saw a tall tree on the horizon. Without thinking, I climbed up the tree as fast as I could. I climbed to the tippy top, but the woman was catching up. Fortunately, she was bad at climbing.

I sat on the tree. I checked my watch, and a bat flew over my head. I thought, "Oh, is that a bat?" Then, I remembered something: my baseball bat! I began to look for my baseball bat. Then I found it. I grabbed my baseball bat tight and waved my baseball bat at her. She wouldn't be intimidated. She kept climbing.

I was just going to say my good-byes when the door I had entered appeared! I nearly cried out tears of joy! I leaped off the tree and sailed straight into the door.

I woke up and checked my watch: It was 6:10.

The Garden



By Andrea Ho (6B)

As the little girl looked out the window and eyed her neighbor's garden, a slight breeze glided gracefully through the sunny day and added a pop to the rather dry weather. A flock of birds sitting in a tree whistled as if they were a choir singing to their hearts' content.

She saw a field of splendid Californian poppies, in the shade of a blissful orange tree, with another field of heavenly tulips parked just opposite. She smelt the aroma of the flowers across the mile. The scent of the modest poppies and dazzling tulips reminded her of the local flora shop, paired with a refreshing glaze of mint.

Next to the field of flowers was a chirpy ginger cat that chased after a lilac butterfly in a well trimmed lawn. The ginger cat meowed gleefully, a meow that many cat owners recognise, the sound of a cat when their beloved owner returns home.

Her eyes were attracted to the magnificent colours of her neighbour's house. The house's base was painted a light cream colour, but the details were just remarkable. A pleasant shade of dashing red outlines surrounded a beaming pink; a blazing blue framed a majestic royal blue; a bright cantaloupe orange radiating warm energy was outlined by a glowing lime green; finally, an effusive orange was surrounded by a glistening yellow. The door was painted in the same colourful pattern as the rest of the house.

Lily, the little girl, decided to muster up the courage to walk over to the door. "Who could be living inside the house? Should I go knock on the door and say hi?" she wondered aloud. "That's weird, I don't think I've ever seen anybody come out of the house. How strange. Do they only come out when no one is in sight? They must be very shy." Lily thought it really suspicious

and no doubt weird that she'd never witnessed her neighbours' movements.

As she walked on the path leading towards the door, she noticed the little step stones in the path were cat-paw-shaped. Her neighbour must adore cats, she thought. When she reached the colourful wooden door, the knob beautifully reflected the shining sun with a golden gleam. Lily also noticed different shapes and sizes of mushrooms in shades of yellow, a ripe apple red, and light lilac growing next to the stairs, leading up to the door. She took notice of the small delicately carved flowers on the golden door knob.

She found it odd how butterflies of various colours were surrounding not only the door but also the whole house, as if there was an invisible string luring them in—just like it was drawing her in too. The butterflies' colours were a light royal blue and a combination of red and yellow, creating a sunset-like pattern with a crisp green apple border.

As she stood at the door, there was a sort of alluring light from the inside, shining through the small window of the flamboyant door. The light was captivating to her, like a moth drawn to a light in the night. She had never seen a light like this before, a combination of red, orange and a golden yellow. It was as if another world was lying on the other side of this wooden door. What could it be? Could it be heaven? Or hell? Or perhaps another extraordinary world that was oh so very different to the one she was in now?

The thoughts alone brought a frown to her face. Whatever was behind this wooden door could be a wonderful or terrible thing. It could change how she saw everything, or could unlock the secrets of a mysterious world, but only whatever was inside could tell. Not time, or even fate; only being inside would

give her the answers. She could be making a terrible decision by twisting the doorknob and unlocking this mystery, she could be opening a Pandora's box there and then. Would she die if she did? Would she bring agony to this already chaotic world?

The thoughts spun around her mind, reflecting how the stars traverse the night sky. Should she open the door?

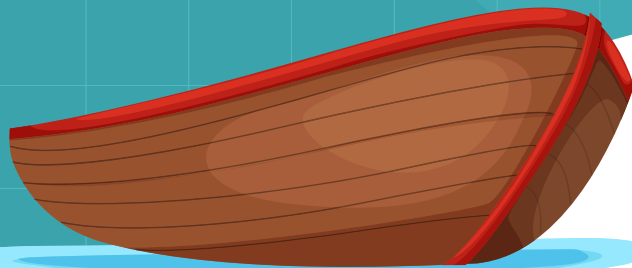
She let out a huff as curiosity overtook her. She had to do it. Whatever was behind this wooden door had to be discovered, solved, and be known to the world—or at least known to her.

As she twisted the golden door knob, a warm sense of comfort took over her body. She felt a strange feeling of belonging. It fulfilled her, as if her blood was replaced with golden wisdom and power pumping through her veins, consuming her. Mentally, it was as if she were a snake shedding its skin for a new one. Every small insecurity was replaced with confidence.

What could it be? As her time ended in this world, she began portalling to another parallel universe. Was she the chosen one? Was this her destiny?

"Shhhhh..." She felt as if she was getting consumed by the scintillating door that had turned into a sunset gradient portal swirling her in. It was strange. If anyone else were in her shoes, they would probably be having a panic attack by then. But Lily felt like she had completed her duty in this world; it was her time to go. Her whole life, she had wondered what would happen after she had completed her part in this world, but now she knew that such a beauty would be the one to take her breath away.

When she left, she was finally happy, a paradise awaiting her. This was her destiny.



Isle of the Lost

By Dustine De La Cruz (6C)

As John, Allen, Alice, Jennifer and Alex got out of the boat that landed on the island, a rotten and bloody smell welcomed them, which gave them shivers. They took a deep breath and went in.

As they walked onto the island they saw a small village. Young people were spray painting the walls of buildings, while older people smoked and gambled.

When they entered the village, there were questions running through their minds, but they were too scared to ask each other. "Why are they destroying their own village? Why is it so noisy and smelly? Why are there still many people living on this abandoned island? Aren't they scared?"

They were stunned to see a village like this. It was like they had forgotten how to talk. All they could do was communicate with their eyes, their eyes moving back and forth, glaring and widened. Still, they knew they needed to continue on. John, Alice, Jennifer and Alex started to explore the village to find answers.

As they explored the village, they came across a dark alley with no lights at all. They peeked down the alley and suddenly heard screams coming from it. Smoke began to

appear down the alley and soon hundreds of bugs, bats and lizards came through the smoke, making everyone shake and jump with disgust.

Once the horrible insects had left the alley, they peeked down and saw a tall man

with an evil laugh. He dropped something to the ground which made him disappear. Something caught their attention and they were drawn to the door. It was not just an ordinary door. It was old and rusty. "Oh my, how old is this door? It's so slimy. Has no one cleaned this before?" Jennifer questioned as they went inside.

They coughed as dust blew into their faces. "I'm done. I'm so done. This nasty place needs a lot, and I mean seriously a lot, of cleaning," Allen thought. "BUT, I can't leave. For some reason, I just have to explore this place first..." Allen suggested they continue exploring. Step by step, their clicking shoes echoed through what appeared to be a large house.

After a few minutes of walking, they came to a staircase. They stopped in front of it and argued, tilting their heads toward the stairs, glaring, and rolling their eyes at one other. Jennifer decided to go up the stairs first and the others followed, but everyone in the group seemed annoyed.

Creaking and squeaking sounds were made as they walked up the broken staircase. "Is this even safe?" asked Alexa as she looked down the stairs.

"Wait, there's something white up there," John said. "Quick! I wanna see what it is." They hurriedly ran towards the glowing white thing.

Step by step as they ran up the stairs, their energy slowly left their bodies. They were slowing down as they walked up the stairs, finally reaching the glowing thing. They fell to their knees, resting their bodies at the top of the stairs. They were suddenly so tired, they couldn't keep their eyes open to look at the glowing white thing in front of them. They were so tired that their eyes closed and they slept.





A Beautiful Mysterious Garden

By Michelle Lee (4B)

I found a beautiful garden.
It looked so magical
It had a golden gate like heaven.
Its beauty shone all across the place.

Lovely dogs jumping and running like a race.
New fish to discover in the clear pond
They had a metallic coat over them
and human bodies.
Little kittens sleeping in a tiny house.

Beautiful flowers all scattered
across the garden
I wish my garden looked like that.
Some bonsai all across the wall.
Some excited animals leaping in their iron pen.

Until...
I found an unusual statue.
It looked like a weird goblin with a king's armour.
Maybe it's the king of this land?
I almost burst out laughing.

Then, I looked behind it...
I saw a mysterious door...
I walked forward and found that it was giant
and rusty.
It made me step back...

It gave me this weird feeling like I wasn't
supposed to be there...
I saw a dirty rug, under the door like a
welcome mat.
I looked under the mat and found a key.
I knew that the key was for the door...
So I used it...

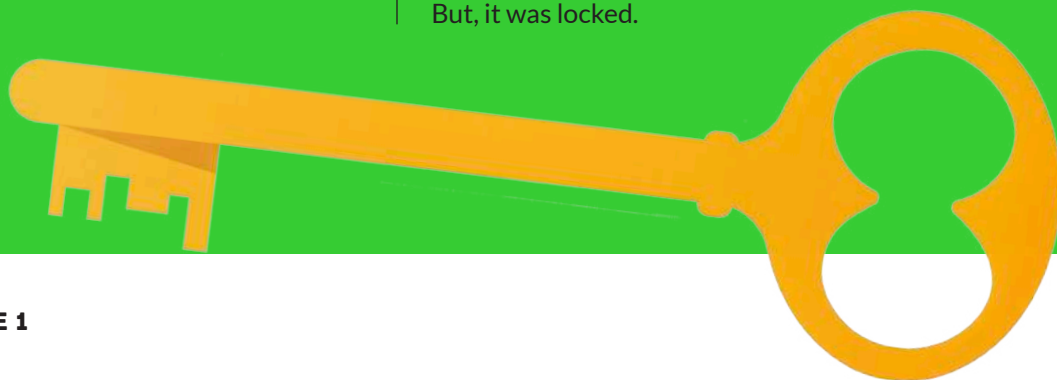
I walked in and I was in a candyland.
Cotton candy flooring.
White chocolate trees.
Chocolate pathways.
It was a miracle to see such delicious things.

I came into a grassy room.
The plants and trees were ten times as big as a
normal tree.
It looked like a lush jungle
With vines on the trees
And flowers were blooming from left and right.
It was like a wizard accidentally blasted a
growing potion in the room.

I entered the lush cave.
It was like a jungle.
There were a lot of waterfalls and rivers
Full of my favorite kinds of fish... BETTA FISH!

There was a house made of stone bricks and
windows.
There were cages and the screeches
Almost made my ears bleed.
But I also heard some birds chirping
and dogs barking.
It was like a zoo but creepy, scary and
underground
This dungeon wasn't like the beautiful garden
outside of the rusty door.
Outside was beautiful and lush.

I heard a weird sound.
I was scared half to death.
I turned to run to the door.
But, it was locked.



My Favourite Fairy Tale Character

By Charlotte Jackson (1C)



I want to take Tinker Bell to Ocean Park because she has never left Disneyland before. I want to show her all of the amazing sea creatures and land animals at Ocean Park. After we arrive by MTR, we will first visit the aquarium to see the sharks, sea turtles, sea horses, stingrays, starfish and other fish. We will then visit the pandas before we take the cable car to check out the dolphin show. Finally, we will go see the penguins and feed the sea lions. I am sure that Tinker Bell will have a lovely time at Ocean Park.

By Liu Yi Meng (2C)

My favorite fairy tale character is Cinderella. In the morning, I get up at seven o'clock and I go to the toilet to brush my teeth. I go to the dining room to eat breakfast. After breakfast, I call Cinderella to come with me to go to the playground. We are swinging in the playground. We are very happy together.

When we are going home, we see a girl who is crying. We ask the girl, "Why are you crying, baby?"

The girl says, "I cannot find my dog."

Cinderella sees an animal's tail. She thinks that it is the dog's tail. She walks there and sees a dog. She grabs the leash and asks, "Is this your dog?"

The girl says, "Yes, thank you so much!"

After that, it is twelve o'clock and I go to her home to eat lunch. After lunch, we go to the shopping mall. Cinderella finds a bag. She asks the seller, "How much is it?"

The seller says, "Twenty-five dollars." Then she buys it. I find a beautiful dress. I like it very much. It is thirty dollars. I buy it too.

"It is six o'clock now," says Cinderella. She goes to my home to eat dinner. After dinner, we wash dishes together.

At seven o'clock, Cinderella says, "I have to go home now."

I say, "Okay, see you tomorrow."



She says, "Bye-bye!"
I have an exciting day with Cinderella. Cinderella is a kind and friendly girl. She likes to help other people.

MY FAIRY TALE



By Rain Wang (3B)

Once upon a time, there were three little pigs who went camping. Sprinkling was the first pig. She built a silver house that sparkled like the surface of the ocean. The second pig was Sparkling. She built a gold house that was as bright as the sun. The third pig was smart and hardworking and her name was Spring. She built a gingerbread house that was delicious. After they all finished their houses, Spring suddenly found a little magic bean! She thought, "I will tell my two big sisters." They planted it in the ground.

The next day, the plant grew so tall that it disappeared into the clouds. The three pigs exclaimed, "OMG!" Indeed, the plant was very tall. The pigs climbed the plant with excitement.

Spring said, "Let's go to the rainbow castle."

They then saw three fluffy clouds. Sprinkling said, "So adorable!" They rode on the clouds. They heard a shriek for help!

Sparkling told the two sisters nervously to hold the bean and prayed, "I wish for my sisters

to be safe!" Luckily, the bean kept them safe and the three pigs gasped. "It's unbelievable!"

Finally, they arrived at the rainbow castle. The three pigs saw a lot of clouds doing exercise. They laughed in amusement. "Hahaha!"

Later on, the three pigs asked, "Excuse me, what is this place?"

The white cloud responded with a cute voice and said, "This is the giant's home."

The three pigs looked at each other and quivered with fear and said, "Oh no!"

But surprisingly, the giant didn't catch them! The giant asked, "Are you new?"

The pigs replied, "Yes."

The giant replied, "We can be friends. You are welcome to come anytime!"

The pigs said gratefully, "Thanks!"

They lived happily together and had a party with all of the other animals. Now, they are happy, joyful and very peaceful. They have a lot of fun.

By Veda Navin Khianey (4B)

Once upon a time, in a lush green field, there was a hare who kept boasting about his speed. All the animals found it annoying, and they always found the opportunity to complain about him behind his back, but the hare didn't even notice.

Finally, one bold tortoise walked up to the hare and said, "If you're so convinced that you're the fastest animal, why not prove it in a race?" The hare looked down at the tortoise in astonishment. How could she not know that she would so definitely lose? So he agreed. After all, it would be nice to be famous for a while, after winning a race against a tortoise.

The hare walked home singing and dancing. He was definitely going to win the race! Suddenly, in all the dancing, his foot hit something on the ground. It felt like metal. He picked it up and saw that it was a lamp, and a beautiful one, at that! He decided to take it home.

He got home and started cleaning it. As he was rubbing it, the lamp dropped to the floor, and a puff of purple smoke shot out of the lamp. The smoke cleared to reveal a genie. "Wow! A genie!" exclaimed the hare.

"Correct," said the genie. "I can grant you three, and only three, wishes."

The hare was delighted. A plan started to form in his head. He would make sure he won the race by hook or by crook. "For my first wish, I'd like you to make the race track very, very winding with lots of curves and steep turns to confuse the tortoise."

"Your wish will be granted on the day of the race."

"And for my second wish," the hare continued, as if he hadn't heard the genie, "I'd like you to put turtle food pellets all over the race track to distract the tortoise," to which the genie replied, "Of course."

Now, with the knowledge that he couldn't possibly lose anymore, he could sleep in peace. He didn't think he would even need the third wish.

The next day, at the starting line, the tortoise didn't look worried at all. But neither did the hare. He was prepared to win. The badger announced, "One, two, three, go!" and the hare took off

like the wind. The tortoise was slowly crawling, crawling, crawling...

The hare reached the winding part but didn't slow down. He ran ahead at full pelt. In fact, he was running so fast, he couldn't turn properly and thus kept going off track.

Then, to make things even worse, he started slipping and tripping on the turtle pellets. The faster he ran, the harder he fell. Then he realised that the tortoise was right next to him! The hare wondered why the tortoise hadn't eaten any pellets of food. Then a blot of realisation struck him. The tortoise had probably already had her breakfast as always!

The hare needed his third and final wish. He rubbed his lamp and out came the genie. "I want to make my third wish!" the hare yelled. "I want you to..." The hare didn't know what to wish for! Suddenly, he came up with an idea. "I want you to build a very deep pond in front of the finish line!" This plan would be foolproof. If the tortoise was slow on land, she would be even slower in the water.

The hare saw a pond form near the finish line out of nowhere. He congratulated himself on being the smartest hare in the world.

They reached the pond. The hare held his breath and dove head first into the pond. It was only then that the hare remembered that water was very bad for hares. It could cause them to catch a cold! He looked up and saw the tortoise swimming past him with ease and speed. What the hare didn't realise before was that although tortoises are slow on land, they are actually pretty good swimmers. He was hardly halfway through the pond when he saw the tortoise climbing out of the water, towards the finish line.

By the time the hare came out of the pond, the tortoise had long crossed the finish line and was snacking on some of those delicious turtle pellets that the hare had so generously scattered around the track. The tortoise had won. The hare couldn't believe it. He realised how foolish and greedy he had been. If only he hadn't used the genie, he might have had a chance at winning.

"Who's the slow one now?" asked the tortoise and slowly crawled home.



Hansel and Gretel

By Heather Jackson (5C)

One sunny morning, Hansel and Gretel were playing in the forest near their home. They were playing hide and seek when they came across a mysterious machine. Hansel opened the door and went inside. Gretel followed Hansel but kept on telling Hansel not to press anything. Despite Gretel's warning, Hansel pushed a button and... nothing happened. Or so they thought. For when they opened the door, they could not see their house, but instead Little Red Riding Hood happily talking to The Big Bad Wolf.

Hansel and Gretel walked outside and said hello. Little Red Riding Hood asked, "Who are you and what brings you here?"

Gretel replied, "We are lost! We found a machine and we think it's a time machine?"

Hansel added, "But just to make sure... What year is it?"

The Big Bad Wolf said, "I think it's the year 1960." At that moment, they realised they really went back in time!

While Hansel and Gretel were explaining what happened to them to

Little Red Riding Hood, The Big Bad Wolf sneakily went inside the time machine and pressed a button labelled "1982". Luckily, Hansel and Gretel turned their heads quickly enough for a glimpse of where The Big Bad Wolf was going: 1982. They had no idea how to get the time machine back!

Meanwhile, The Big Bad Wolf was in the time machine pressing random buttons, not sure what to do. When he saw a button that had the number "1960", The Big Bad Wolf pressed the button and...

He opened the door again to see Little Red Riding Hood and Hansel and Gretel staring at him. The Wolf saw them and said he was sorry for stealing the time machine. He let Hansel and Gretel get the time machine back and he told them how to use it so they wouldn't get lost again.

Hansel and Gretel pressed the button that said "2004". When they saw their parents inside their house, they breathed a sigh of relief. That day, The Big Bad Wolf learned that he should never steal other people's stuff.

The Hardworking Hare

By Samadhi Deva Gurung (6B)

Once upon a time, there lived a hare who had lost a running competition with a tortoise. He was a very lazy hare. Whenever his mother asked him to tidy his room, do some housework or dig carrots out from the farm, he would always say "later" or "tomorrow". Instead he just liked to lie in bed the entire day and would end up doing nothing. Cinderella's fairy godmother, who lived next door, saw all of this through her window every day and she decided to teach him a lesson.

On the hare's twelfth birthday, the fairy godmother secretly put a wrapped parcel on his desk as his "birthday gift". She vanished before anyone would see her. When it was time to open his presents, the hare was surprised and curious about this anonymous present. He exclaimed, "Wow! It's a beautiful golden watch! I wonder who gave it to me." He loved it and wore it at once.

The next morning, the hare was lying on his bed as usual, doing nothing. His mom came to his room and asked, "Can you water the carrots in the farm please?"

As always, the hare replied,

"I'll do it tomorrow." However, something strange happened this time. His new golden watch started to glow brightly and the time passed by very quickly to the next day.

His mom asked again, "Can you clean up your desk please?"

He responded immediately, "I'll do it later." As soon as the hare finished his reply, his watch glowed brighter and brighter, and the time flew by quicker and quicker.

Without realising how much time had ticked away, the hare started to feel something strange in his body. He got off his bed and looked into a mirror. He was shocked to see that his face had become wrinkled, with a very long white beard hanging from his chin to his feet! His back was so weak and bent that he could not stand up straight anymore! He had turned into a ninety-year-old grandpa hare! "Oh no!" he cried loudly. However, although he had aged many years, all the other hares stayed as young as they were as if nothing had ever happened.

The hare did not know what to do. He felt desperate. He started to cry and cry. He kept on crying for

many days and nights. There were so many tears that it caused severe flooding in the neighbourhood.

At that moment, Cinderella's fairy godmother jumped into a big bucket from her bathroom and paddled slowly towards the hare's home. She then said to him, "This is all because of your laziness. Do you know how much precious time you have wasted?" The hare felt very ashamed. He begged the fairy godmother to turn him back to his original form.

"I promise I will be hardworking and never leave anything until tomorrow that can be done today!" the hare pleaded sincerely.

Knowing that he had finally learned his lesson, the fairy godmother agreed and smiled. "Then go and do all of the work you should have completed long ago!" she said.

Since then, the hare had done everything promptly and properly. He had learned to use his time wisely. "Time is my greatest gift in life," the hare always told the others. Nowadays, no one can imagine that the hardworking hare of today was once a very lazy one in the past.



