

# The Raffles Wave

RGS Parents and Alumni

AUGUST 2012

[www.rgs.edu.sg](http://www.rgs.edu.sg)



RGS Head Prefect Chloe Wong (303) leading the student leaders in reciting the Student Leaders' pledge



**RAFFLES GIRLS' SCHOOL**

*Nurturing  
Daughters of a Better Age*

#### School closure

The school will be closed on  
Teachers' Day - 7 September 2012

#### RGS Student Leaders' Investiture

*Blazing the trail. For the student leaders of RGS, this is almost an implicit expectation. They are the leaders in their fields, fully capable of planning and executing a multitude of events, leading their peers across a range of situations.*

*Blazing the trail for others. For the student leaders of RGS, this is the higher calling of leadership. This is so because the notion of blazing the trail for others is founded on the ideal of creating a better age, a notion close to every Rafflesian's heart.*

Excerpt taken from Principal's forward, SLI Programme leaflet.

On 2 August, RGS formally welcomed a new group of leaders into the illustrious family of RGS student leaders who have contributed much to the growth and reputation of the school.

On this day, it is also worth recognising that while few are selected, all RGS girls are leaders in their own right and in their own way pave the way for the betterment of the school, embodying the school's motto: Filiae Melioris Aevi - Daughters of a Better Age.

#### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

##### RGS Speech Day (25 August)

Speech Day is a key RGS event and celebrates the pinnacle achievements of the school, staff and students. RGS principal, Mrs Julie Hoo, will provide a report on the school, significant milestones and achievements, as well as a look forward to future challenges. The Guest-of-Honour will be Dr Cheong Koon Hean, CEO of the Housing Development Board and Deputy Secretary (Special Duties), MND. Herself an RGS girl, Dr Cheong is yet another testimony to the richness of the diversity and legacy of the RGS alumni.

##### National Day Celebrations

As the nation celebrates National Day on 9 August, RGS students will celebrate National Day a day before. Reinforcing the indomitable 'Singapore Spirit' and coming together as a school population, National Day is truly a day for all to express a pride and love for the country and community.

##### Shanghai No. 3 Girls' Middle School (6 - 8 August)

RGS is currently hosting a group of 18 students and 4 teachers from the Shanghai No 3 Girls' Middle School. The students will be attending classes with their RGS counterparts and will also be joining the school for the National Day celebrations on 8 August. The visiting students are in RGS for 3 days to immerse themselves in the RGS Learning Experience as well as get a taste of living in Singapore through a home-stay experience. Some of the RGS girls hosting these visiting students had themselves visited Shanghai and Zhongshan on a school trip in November 2011, while the rest will be making the trip in November this year.

For feedback or query, do email [karen.lim@rgs.edu.sg](mailto:karen.lim@rgs.edu.sg)

20, Anderson Road, Singapore 259978. Tel: 67371845 Fax: 62353731

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Launch of the RGS F1 Centre for Innovation

Launched on 28 July, the RGS F1 Centre for Innovation is the first F1 Centre for Innovation set up by a girls' school. The Centre will serve as a hub for schools to collaborate and explore new ways of providing students with the skills and competencies in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education through integrated curriculum and meaningful real-world application. The event was graced by Guest-of-Honour, Mrs Ng Ai Lin, Zonal Director, School South, Ministry of Education, and attended by school leaders and teachers from primary and secondary schools in Singapore.

A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between RGS and the Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES). With the MOU, RGS and IES will work in collaboration, through the programmes offered by the RGS F1 Centre for Innovation, to promote engineering education and careers, especially among girls.



Left: Mrs Ng Ai Lin launching the RGS F1 Centre for Innovation by launching the first F1 car  
Right: Signing of the MOU by RGS and IES (Seated left – Prof S K Chou, IES President; Seated right – Mrs Julie Hoo, RGS Principal; Standing left – Mrs Ng Ai Lin; Standing right – Mr Tan Kiak Seng, Superintendent, School South 7 cluster, MOE)

### Racial Harmony Week (16 - 20 July)

The RGS community came together to celebrate Racial Harmony Week (RHW) as one big family, with students, staff and parents participating in the week-long festivities. The highlight this year saw students being empowered to plan and implement RHW activities for their school mates.

The International Scholars shared with the RGS community the many aspects of Chinese, Indonesian and Vietnamese festivals, culture and aspirations. The Global Affairs Council, a group of student enthusiasts who seek to expose the school community to current affairs, designed an online Racial Harmony Quiz for the student population to participate in. The Year 1-3 RHW CLE lessons were designed by a group of Year 3 Race & Ethnicity Awareness Programme participants; student volunteers both local and international also helped facilitate the sessions. The highlight of the week saw PRGS organise and sponsor childhood games and snacks in the Hall that saw students turning out in force and having a thoroughly fun time in the spirit of harmony among all.



Chatek anyone?



Remember 'Five stones'?

**RGS  
LEADERSHIP BOARDS  
2012 - 2013**

**Prefectorial Board**

**Head Prefect**  
Chloe Wong (303)

**Vice-Head Prefects**  
Tiffany Chan (305)  
Michelle Lim (301)  
Eden Teoh (303)

**Peer Support Board**

**Chairperson**  
Rachel Tan (302)

**Vice-Chairpersons**  
Judy Hong (301)  
Ong Yi Jing (309)

**Student Congress**

**Speaker**  
Lum Qian Wei (306)

**Deputy Speakers**  
Faith Nadine Choo (302)  
Tan Yin Lin (301)

**Houses**

**Tarbet House  
Captain**  
Vanessa Chen (301)

**Vice-Captain**  
Yap Bei Jun (306)

**Buckle House  
Captain**  
Tan Hui Ying (314)

**Vice-Captain:**  
Richelle Ang (308)

**Richardson House  
Captain**  
Cai Minglu (307)

**Vice-Captain**  
Ragini Verma (305)

**Waddle House  
Captain**  
Yap Li Yin (306)

**Vice-Captain**  
Koh Jing En (315)

**Hadley House  
Captain**  
Melissa Tang (301)  
**Vice-Captain**  
Jasmine Kurniawan (312)

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Top of the World**

Singapore sailors swept all the medals on offer at the Optimist World Championships in the Dominican Republic. RGS girls Yukie Yokoyama and Jessica Goh were part of the victorious Singapore team. Yukie was also crowned overall world champion, only the second Singaporean to claim the honour and Jessica claimed 3rd placing. The achievement is no mean feat as the waves were choppy and the competitive field was strong, going up against more than 200 of the world's top 15-and-under Optimist sailors. As Yukie commented, "the waves really affected the balance of my boat so my agility was put to the test the whole way through. Being a world champion feels pretty awesome, it hasn't quite sunk in yet."

**Singapore, checked. The region, next.**

The inaugural Singapore leg of the prestigious Steinway Youth Piano competition (which concluded on 23 June) saw RGS' own See Ning Hui (407) emerge as champion in the competition and move one step further to attaining the honour of being the first South-East Asian representative at the International Steinway Festival in Hamburg on 7 September. For that honour, Ning Hui will pit her skills against winners from Brunei, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. Whatever the result, we know that Ning Hui will give her best and do Singapore proud.

**Another first by RGS girls**

The 23rd International Biology Olympiad (IBO) held in Singapore ended on a high note on 14 July, with Singaporean students coming up tops in the prestigious competition.

RGS alumni Zhang Hui Ting and Mao Haitong (both from class of 2010) were two of the four Singapore representatives who won Gold medals at the competition. The Singapore team obtained a total of four gold medals, placing first in a field of 236 of the brightest and best students from 59 countries. This is the first time Singapore has placed first in the competition.

**A Silver finish**

RGS Symphonic Band clinched the Silver medal at this year's Singapore International Band Festival, Division 1 category, going up against a competition that consisted mainly of tertiary students.

The competition, held at The Republic Cultural Centre, Esplanade Concert Hall from 18 to 23 July, enabled band members to demonstrate their potential and creativity. Congratulations to all the girls in the band, the instructors and the teachers for this achievement at an international level.

**Round the world in...**

The Singapore team contesting the 2011-2012 Clipper Round the World Race notched a podium finish after over 50 weeks and 40,000 nautical miles around the globe. RGS alumnus Sherlyn Chen, just 19 years old, who was constantly one of the top students in RGS and who decided take a gap year to represent Singapore in the race completed the full circumnavigation, a feat to be proud of. Taking it one step further, Sherlyn decided to use the race to raise funds which she would donate to a cause that makes education more accessible to children. Just her way of contributing back to a society that has given her so much.