

The Raffles Wave

RGS Parents and Alumni Newsletter

OCTOBER 2012

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RGS National Day Celebrations



**RAFFLES
GIRLS' SCHOOL**

*Nurturing
Daughters of a Better Age*

Transition of leadership at RGS

RGS will be getting a new principal when Mrs Julie Hoo, incumbent principal, takes up a senior position in the MOE headquarters on 15 Dec 2012.

The principal designate is Mdm Tham Mun See. A former RGS girl, Mdm Tham is currently the Deputy Director of the Academy of Singapore Teachers. She was also the Principal of Anderson Secondary School previously.

New home for RGS from 2018

RGS will have a new home along Braddell Road opposite Raffles Institution (RI) from 2018.

The new premises will provide for the space and facilities required to deliver innovative curriculum and programmes and better support the school's teaching and learning goals. As we continue to work synergistically with RI, we also fully intend to maintain and leverage our independent status, growing and building our unique heritage and traditions as the top girls' school in Singapore.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rendezvous II - Concert by the Music Elective Programme (MEP) girls

Organised by the Y3 MEP students and held at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music on 22 Oct, 7pm, the concert will showcase talented musicians from the MEP performing solo or ensemble pieces. There will also be special performances by the first prize winners of the Young Pianist Competition - Jessie Chua Jie Min (RGS, senior category) and Michael Huang Wei Cheng (Holy Innocent Primary School, intermediate category) - held earlier this year.

Graduation and Farewell Assembly and Farewell Alma Mater

Looking back at their 4 years at RGS and towards the legacy they are leaving behind, the Graduation and Farewell Assembly will be held on 31 October. Farewell Alma Mater will take place at the Concorde Hotel on the evening of 15 November.

Staff Seminar and Family Day

The RGS Staff Seminar will be held on the 8 and 9 November at the Changi Village Hotel. The two-day staff seminar will be for the purpose of strategic planning, charting the development of the school and planning for the new RGS campus. The school will be closed for the two days.

RGS Family Day will be held at the Universal Studios @ Resort World Sentosa on 10 November. Recognising the importance of balancing work and family commitments, RGS Family Day brings families together for a day of family bonding, fun and adventure.

International Convention for Youth Leaders (ICYL)

Organised by RGS, the 4th ICYL will be held on 19-22 November. Theme for the convention is "Connecting Hearts, Inspiring Action", underscoring the two main ideas that drive this year's convention, namely discovering and sharing one's personal values and sense of purpose as a leader, and enacting collective actions towards positive change.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

National Day Celebrations

National Day celebrations at RGS started ceremonially with the parade segment helmed by the Uniformed Groups. The Guest of Honor was Miss Sharon Tan, President's scholar, the first female Singapore Armed Forces Scholar and a former National Cadet Corps cadet at RGS. The collective voice of the school resonated in the reciting of the National Pledge in the four official languages, as the school stood at attention at the raising of the National Flag, marking 47 years of independence.

The concert segment of the celebrations saw the debut of the "Luv @ SG" item, where the Y4 classes performed expressions of love for Singapore, bringing forth a variety of exciting performances that got the crowd in the National Day mood. Authentic and original, the concert performances left indelible memories for all involved.

RGS Speech Day

RGS celebrated Speech Day on 25 August. Guest-of-Honour for the event was Dr Cheong Koon Hean, CEO Housing and Development Board and Deputy Secretary (Special Duties) Ministry of National Development Singapore, who also happens to be an RGS alumnus. A total of 179 awards were given out for achievements and excellence in a full spectrum of domains, acknowledging the outstanding achievements of students, whether they are academic, CCA, or in the spheres of leadership or community service.

Chairperson of the RGS Board of Governors, the Honorable Justice Judith Prakash formally announced that RGS will be moving to a new campus in 2018 at the event. The RGS new campus is an exciting moment in the history of RGS and an important chapter in our journey to ensure that RGS continues to provide the best education for women in Singapore.



RGS Speech Day ceremony at the Evelyn Norris Hall

ACES (All Children Exercise) Day and Staff Night

RGS celebrated ACES Day and Teachers' Day on 31 August. Moving to a pre-choreographed, fun-filled aerobic work out, students and staff got together in a mass exercise routine early in the morning. This was followed immediately by a Teacher's Day concert put up by the students in a show of appreciation for their teachers.

In the evening, RGS staff got together at the Traders Hotel for the annual Staff Night dinner. Set to the theme of Superheroes, it was a night of bonding and levity ending with the crowning of the best dressed Superheroes - teachers Ms Syahidah Bte Ibrahim as Darth Vader and Mr Chad Evans as Superman.

RGS Class of '92

The RGS Class of '92 came together at Capella, Sentosa, on 8 September, for their 20-year reunion. For many of the ladies, it had been that many years since they had last met! The evening saw 118 'old girls' dressed in a sea of green, black and white in the spirit of the RGS school colours and also the theme for the evening. The ladies caught up with each other and reminisced the four years spent at RGS' temporary holding location at Jalan Kuala while the Anderson Road campus was being rebuilt. They played table games and gave out prizes contributed by the Class of '92 cohort. Funds were also raised in support of the Rainbow Centre to purchase a pushcart for students there to put into practice their entrepreneurial skills. In all, it was a beautiful evening of old friends, wonderful conversations and renewed connections which the ladies hope to keep active till they celebrate their next class reunion!



Photo by Eleanor Ho

ACHIEVEMENTS

RGS' awards for 2012

At the Awards Ceremony held at Ngee Ann Polytechnic on 12 September, the Ministry of Education announced the following awards for RGS:

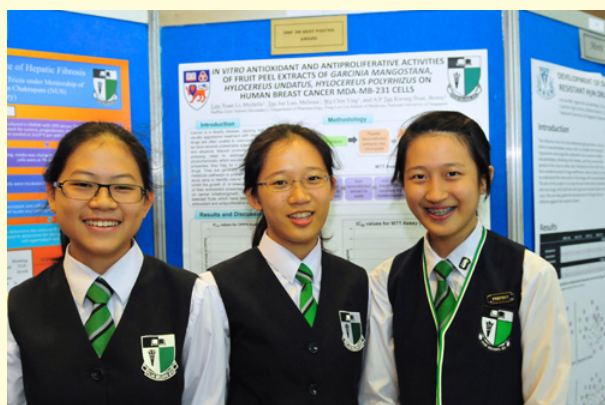
- School Excellence Award (Renewed)
- Lee Kuan Yew Award for National Education
- Outstanding Development Award for Character Development
- Best Practice Award for Teaching and Learning
- Best Practice Award for Staff Wellbeing
- Best Practice Award for Student All Round Development

The awards testify to the holistic and broad-based achievements of RGS in providing excellence in education and we are grateful to all who have contributed to the school's success and in making RGS a global name in education.

18th Youth Science Conference

On Saturday, 22nd September, 20 RGS Science Mentorship Programme groups participated in the 18th Youth Science Conference at the Singapore Polytechnic Convention Centre. Organised by the Gifted Education Branch, Ministry of Education, the fair showcased 106 projects submitted by 301 pupils from 22 schools. Five RGS groups achieved Distinction Awards (including two projects that achieved the 3M Best Poster Awards), 11 RGS groups achieved Merit Awards and four RGS groups received Certificates of Participation.

Special mention for the two RGS groups that achieved the 3M Best Poster Awards:

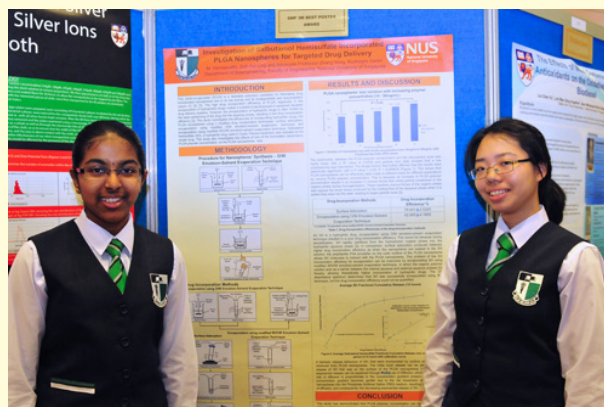


Project Title:

The antioxidant properties of fruit peel extracts and their anti-cancer properties as observed on breast cancer cells

Group members (L to R):

Teo Jue Luo Melinna (301), Wu Chin Ying (304),
Lim Xuan Li Michelle (301)



Project Title:

Albuterol (drug) encapsulation in PLGA nano particles for biomedical applications

Group members (L to R):

Mani Hemaavathi (302) and Soh Hui Ling (302)

GMAC Students Challenge 2012

The Genetic Modification Advisory Committee (GMAC) is a multi-agency national committee established under the purview of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. As part of its ongoing public education efforts, GMAC organised the GMAC Students Challenge 2012. Participants of this year's competition were tasked to create an educational video clip based on the theme of "Mythbusting GM Foods." RGS was represented by two teams; one for the lower secondary category, and one for the upper secondary category.

At the finals held on Saturday, 15 September at Biopolis, the RGS team of Vicki Ong Yun Qi (113), Feng Siyuan (206), Nicole Yow (210), Zhang Yiyue (211) and Kimberly Han Shiyun (213) emerged as champions in the lower secondary category, and the upper secondary team of Sarah Yao (401), Rachel Ee (401), Hope Chow (401), Ho Hui Min (402) and Liu Chang (402) emerged as 1st runners-up in the upper secondary category.

Friend of Singa 2012

RGS will receive The Platinum Award for this year's 'Friend of Singa 2012'. The Platinum Award (by the Singapore Kindness Movement) is given to schools that have won the Gold Award for 3 consecutive years and are deserving of the Gold Award again this year. RGS is one of only two recipients to receive the Platinum Award. The Award Ceremony will be held on 6 November at Nanyang Auditorium @ Nanyang Technological University.