

A note from the *Principal...*

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope that all of you are keeping safe and finding ways to keep your spirits up! The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about many challenges, and this period could have been tough-going for many of us. Please continue to take care of yourselves so that you can in turn take care of your children.

The image and poem are reminders of the possibilities when the impossible seems more probable! We can learn lessons about perseverance from nature and these are important lessons that we can share with our children.

I would like to encourage all parents/guardians to read this poem with your child/ward, with reference to our school values of **Perseverance** and **Lead Self**, along with 'Growth Mindset' and 'Grit'. You could discuss the following with them:

- What does the 'concrete' represent in their lives? What are their obstacles?
- How can your child/ward break through concrete, just like how the rose had grown from a crack in the concrete? What can they do to overcome their obstacles and reach their dreams?

You can also show your child/ward pictures or highlight real-life examples of the resilience and perseverance of nature, and then connect these images to how your child/ward should live their own lives. These are life skills that are critical to help our children rise above the challenges brought about by the pandemic.

"Gritty people have a growth mindset; when bad things happen, they don't give up."

- Angela Duckworth

Angela Duckworth's TED Talk on "grit" as one of the most important predictors of success went viral in 2013. You may have seen it in a previous issue but I attach it once again for your reference:

<https://youtu.be/H14bBuluwB8>

Duckworth's definition of grit is "**passion and perseverance toward long-term goals**". However, despite the prevalence of grit, Duckworth says the concept is often misunderstood and that people often overlook the part about 'passion'.

"I think that the passion piece is at least as important. I mean, if you are really, really tenacious and dogged about a goal that's not meaningful to you, and not interesting to you — then that's just drudgery."

- Angela Duckworth



Image credits: [drsaradennis.com](https://www.drsaradennis.com)

The rose that grew from concrete

by Tupac Shakur

Did you hear about the rose that grew
from a crack in the concrete?
Proving nature's law is wrong it
learned to walk without having feet.

Funny it seems, but by keeping its dreams,
it learned to breathe fresh air.
Long live the rose that grew from concrete
when no one else ever cared.



Big Life Journal - biglifejournal.com

Perseverance and especially passion may sound unteachable but they are not. It just takes **time** and **consistency**.

I invite you to use the following activities (source: <https://biglifejournal.com>) with your child/ward to help them develop their inner grittiness, hence placing them on the path to happiness and success.

Warmest regards,

Mdm Rao

SCHOOL VISION

A Champion in Every Child

SCHOOL MISSION

To Build Character
To Challenge Minds
To Enrich Lives

SCHOOL VALUES

Respect
Compassion
Integrity
Perseverance
Lead Self



Here are 2 steps you can start with:

STEP 1:

A study by psychology researchers, including Dr. Carol Dweck and Dr. David Yeager, indicates that students are more **motivated** to succeed when they have a core purpose. The study involved brief online interventions, including asking students to write how the world could be a better place, reading stories about how performing in school could help them positively impact the world, and having students think about their own dreams and how their education could help them achieve their goals.

As students developed the belief they could achieve **purpose** in life, they grew more motivated and performed better holistically. You can help your child/ward develop **grit** (both passion and perseverance) by discussing their **goals** and purpose in life. Then talk about the steps required in order for them to reach their goal.

1

HELP YOUR CHILD FIND PURPOSE



Discuss their goals and purpose in life. Then, talk about the steps that would be required in order for your child to reach their goal. Encourage them to create a dream board to help visualize their purpose and goals.

STEP 2:

2

ENCOURAGE TO CONDUCT "GRIT INTERVIEWS"



Encourage your child to interview grandparents, neighbors, or other acquaintances who have worked hard toward a long-term goal.

Children learn **pessimism** or **optimism** from the adults in their lives, so providing opportunities for your child/ward to learn from positive, resilient adults is key.

Your child/ward can interview grandparents, neighbours, or other acquaintances who have worked hard toward a long-term goal. With the pandemic, these interviews may have to be limited to close family members or via online meetings, where possible.

3

SHARE STORIES OF GRITTY FAMOUS PEOPLE



Encourage your child to study famous people (and their failures) like Michael Jordan or J.K. Rowling. These examples will show your child that perseverance through failure can lead to great success.

These interviews will teach your child/ward how to live life with grit in addition to the benefits that come with passion and perseverance. I invite you to share your resilience stories with your child/ward as well. It is helpful for kids to understand that even adults can make mistakes, but then try again and ultimately solve a problem or reach a goal. As your child/ward hears stories about grit from people they admire (including you), they will want to mirror these values in their own life!

Your child/ward can also learn from stories about famous people who used passion and perseverance to reach their long-term goals, often with failures or setbacks along the way. Stories like Michael Jordan not making his University team, or J.K. Rowling's manuscript for Harry Potter being rejected almost a dozen times, will show your child/ward that perseverance through failure can lead to great success.

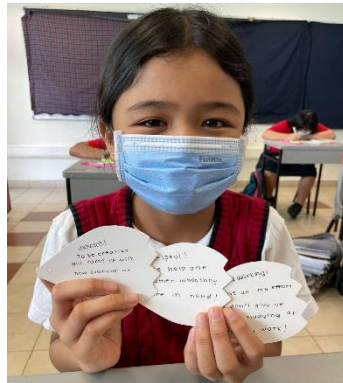
If any of these famous people had given up when they experienced failure, they would never have achieved their fame and success. "Luck" is an illusion; success is about hard work and persistence towards something you are passionate about!

**TOGETHER OUR
SINGAPORE SPIRIT**
★ NDP 2021 ★

National Day

2021 marks our nation's 56th birthday, and the theme for our National Day this year is *'Together, Our Singapore Spirit'*. We hope every Singaporean will remain united and spur one another on to overcome setbacks in order to build a stronger Singapore for our future generations.

Yumin Champions had a blast celebrating our nation's birthday through a series of activities! To reinvigorate and showcase our Singapore spirit, P1 to P3 reminisced a piece of Singapore's history by making a dragon playground puppet. On the other hand, the P4 to P6 students made a pinwheel and also reflected on the various positive traits they embody that are characteristic of what makes them Singaporean! The students also had much fun playing a game of charades – the Singapore edition!



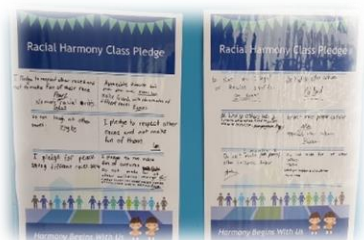
The day ended with the 2021 theme song, *The Road Ahead*. While singing aloud was still not encouraged in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, students' hearts still swelled with pride and their spirits soared as they soaked in the meaningful lyrics which was a reminder for everyone to rise above all challenges to do the best we can in the road ahead!



Racial Harmony Day



Racial Harmony Day (RHD) is a day where we celebrate Singapore's success as a racially harmonious and secular nation. The theme for this year is *'Common Spaces, Connected Communities'*. In celebration of RHD in Term 3 Week 4, students participated in class-based activities that aimed to build trust and strengthen friendships amongst their classmates from different ethnic communities. One of the activities for the P4 champions included the creation of a racial harmony class pledge to remind themselves of their commitment to maintain racial harmony. Additionally, all students also had a chance to learn more about Singapore's unique and diverse food culture through their recess programme!



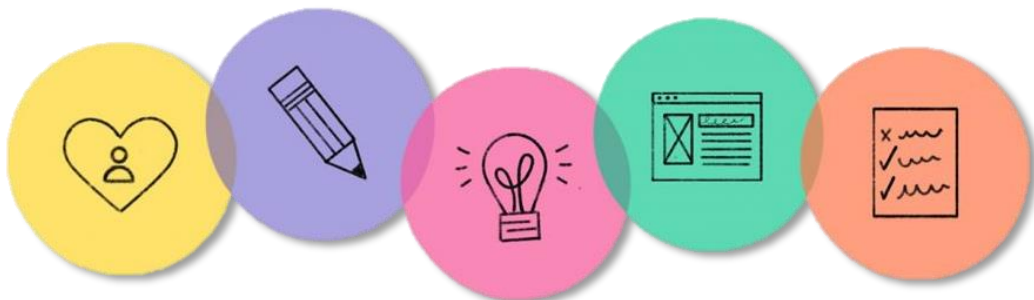
Yumin Innovator Award Showcase



At Yumin Primary, we strive to develop a Maker in every Yumin Champion. Leveraging the **Design Thinking protocol**, the Innovation Committee designed a task card challenge, and all P1 to P6 students were encouraged to unleash their creativity and complete at least four tasks that piqued their interest.

In all, the committee received a total of 131 submissions, many of which showed thoughtful ideation and creativity at its best! The students' works were displayed at the Grand Court to celebrate the accomplishment of these Yumin Makers, and at the same time, serve as an encouragement for their peers to also embrace the spirit of innovation and creativity!

Well done, Yumin Champions!



SGEM

The English Language Department organised the Speak Good English Movement (SGEM) week from 12 to 16 July 2021. Several activities were carried out that week to enable students to experience the use of English Language in a fun and interesting way!

On 6 July 2021, as a precursor to SGEM week, the department invited an author, **Neil Humphreys**, to conduct a zoom sharing session on how to write funny stories. Classroom activities such as 'Lingo Bingo' and 'Do you speak Good English' were also conducted during English lessons to strongly encourage students to practise good pronunciation and grammar when speaking. The highlight of the week was 'Book Character Day', where students came to school dressed as their favourite story book characters! From Harry Potter to dinosaurs, to Cat in the Hat and Thomas the Train and more, the school came alive with the character galore!



What our students had to say:

Mr Neil Humphreys presentation was wonderful. I loved it! I learned that if you see something (you find) very funny, you can write or type it out. I like his stories as he shared embarrassing moments that had happened to him. (Rabiatul Adawiyah, 4 Compassion)

I enjoyed Book Character Day because I got to dress up. I also like to see my teachers and friends dressed up as their favourite characters. I chose to dress up as The Cat In The Hat from the Dr Seuss series because he is fun and likes to enjoy himself, just like me! (Daniyal Bin Abdul Hamid, 1 Compassion)



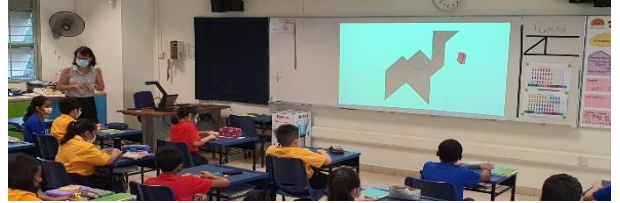
P1-5 Curiosity Programme Mathematics

To excite Yumin Champions in the learning of Mathematics, the Mathematics department organised a series of fun activities that enabled students to extend their learning beyond their textbooks. On 27 July 2021, students were introduced to tangrams during assembly, and challenged to form as many animal, human or any other shapes using the Tangram pieces.



As part of the Math Curiosity Programme, P2 and P3 students were challenged on their speed and accuracy in multiplication and division within a given time limit. During their respective recesses from 27 July to 2 August 2021, students sat at the Grand Court and showed intense concentration as they aimed to complete the sums on the iPads provided!

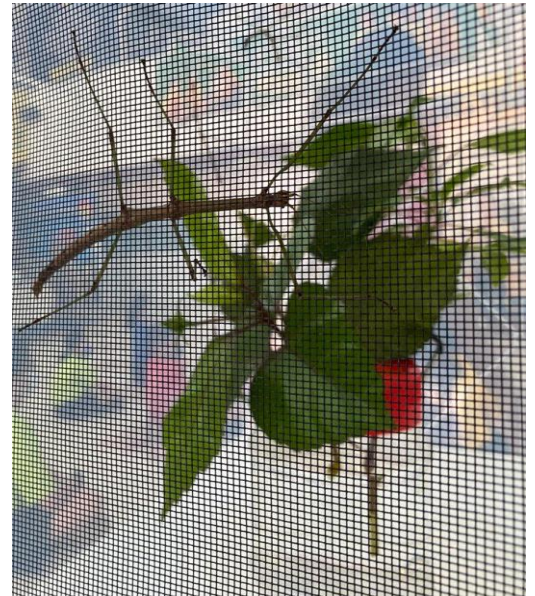
We were heartened to see our Yumin Champions enthused and excited about the activities during the Fun and Curiosity Math Week @ Yumin!



P1-6 Curiosity Programme Science



It was another day for some Science fun! Assuming the role of an insect professor, our Science teacher, Miss Yuen, shared fun facts about stick insects. Our Yumin Champions were awed as they observed the stick insects up close! These stick insects are currently housed in a cage outside the staff room for students to marvel at and observe as they walk along the corridors to and from the canteen. What an eye-opening experience!



Yumin Music & Art Festival

The Aesthetics Department organised our biannual Yumin Art & Music Fest (YAMF) from 24 to 31 August 2021. The objectives of YAMF are:



YOUTUBE LIVE – ASSEMBLY PROGRAMME



ART EXHIBITION RECESS PROGRAMME



The Art exhibition held at the Grand Court helped student artists to share their artistic journey with their classmates and friends from other classes. Videos of Yumin Champions' performances were also screened in the canteen during the respective recesses, and students appreciated the opportunity to see their fellow schoolmates showcase their varied musical talents!



National Day Commendation



Commendation Medal School Recipient

Mdm Aszrina Bte
Tugiman

Teachers' Day Celebration

This year, Yumin celebrated Teachers' Day on 2 September 2021. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the celebrations were kept simple yet meaningful for the teachers. Led by our Principal, Mdm Rao, and witnessed by our students, teachers recited the Teachers' Pledge to renew their commitment to the teaching profession. Students also penned appreciation messages, put together in a scrapbook for their teachers.



Prior to Teachers' Day, students had cast their votes and nominated the teachers whom they felt would be most deserving of the 'Approachable Teacher', 'Inspiring Teacher', 'Innovative Teacher' and 'Caring Teacher' awards. These awards were given out during the celebrations amidst loud cheers by our students. A memorable Teachers' Day indeed!

Pre-Primary Immersion

Between 7 July and 4 August 2021, our school organised a Virtual Open House for parents/guardians who were interested in enrolling their children at Yumin Primary School for P1 in 2022. Through this virtual open house, parents/guardians were taken on a tour of the school and experienced the life of a Yumin Champion through the lens of a Primary 1 student!

The school also organised an engagement session with prospective parents/guardians through an e-conversation session on 16 July 2021. Those who attended the session expressed their appreciation to the school for taking time to help them better understand the approaches and programmes at Yumin Primary, which gave them confidence to make Yumin Primary their choice school!



Cyber Tips for Parents' Workshop



On 10 July 2021, the Partnership Committee organised a virtual workshop, *Cyber Tips for Parents*, to create awareness of cybersecurity and enable parents/guardians to support their child/ward in becoming safe, secure and responsible digital citizens. The session was conducted by the International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium (ISC)², and ended with a fun kahoot quiz to help participants to consolidate their learning. Congratulations to all winners!

Tips to Support Your Child During FHBL

TIP #1: Get Ready Together

Setup an area conducive for learning, such as the dining table or study desk. Check that your child has the necessary resources:

Password & Login IDs



Access the online portals that the school will be using with your child and get them to note down the login details

Full HBL timetable & relevant materials



Ensure your child knows the schedule and prepares the necessary materials for the lessons.

Point of contact for FHBL queries



Teachers will inform your child about their preferred mode of communication e.g. Class Dojo or email

TIP #2: Establish A Structure Together

Unlike in school, an adult may not always be present to supervise your child. It is important to work out a routine:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>Study, meal, rest timings</p> | <p>2</p> <p>"School" time
(e.g. change out of pyjamas before starting Full HBL)</p> | <p>3</p> <p>"Recess" time
(e.g. healthy, balanced meals and snacks)</p> |
| <p>4</p> <p>Recreation time
(e.g. 15 mins after completing each subject)</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Recreational activities at home
(e.g. reading storybooks, craft work, exercise)</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Recreational activities online
(e.g. decide how much time he/she should spend online)</p> |

Click here for more information:
<https://www.moe.gov.sg/parentkit>