

The News Hunters

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Park View Primary School



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Dear Friends,

This is our first newsletter and we hope you enjoy it!

The Editorial Team



News Hunter Editorial Team

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Up and Coming Head Prefect for 2015

By Marvin Tan

Primary Five student, Lock Yi Xuan, has been nominated head prefect for 2015. Standing at 1.35m with bright inquisitive eyes and a pixie face, she carries herself with an air of quiet confidence.



Yi Xuan says, "I will serve the school and make it a conducive place to learn. Being a head prefect is a tremendous honour!" She appreciates the trust and faith that the teachers and students have in her.

She thinks that being responsible, reliable and respectful to everyone, including her juniors, is important. It comes as no surprise that the teachers put up the nomination. She leads her juniors and friends with confidence and respects them by listening to their opinions.

A spunky girl, Yi Xuan will not hesitate to stand up for justice and will report to the authorities when someone has done something wrong, even if that person is her close friend. She certainly knows the importance of being unbiased and fair to all!

Ebola Outbreak

By Ho Jia Hui

Ebola has infected more than 7400 people in West Africa since August 2014. The death toll as of October 2014 is 3400. It is the deadliest outbreak on record.

People will not be infected through close contact with an Ebola victim. Ebola spreads through body fluids. If an infected person's blood or vomit gets into another person's eyes, nose or mouth, the infection will be transmitted. The virus can survive on surfaces, so any object contaminated with bodily fluids, like a latex glove, or a hypodermic needle, may spread the disease.



The Ebola virus

The epidemic is spreading faster than efforts to contain it, partly because of wrong beliefs of how the disease is spread. Health care workers have also unknowingly spread the virus when they failed to take thorough precautions. Some victims even turn to witch doctors for help as they ran out of choices.

Symptoms usually appear 8 to 10 days after exposure. At first, it seems much like the flu: a headache, fever, aches and pains. Sometimes there are also rashes. Diarrhea, vomiting and bleeding follow. Death occurs when the victim's heart, kidneys, liver and other organs begin to fail.

There is no vaccine or cure for Ebola, although there is a small percentage of people who appear to have an immunity to the virus.



A fruit bat (also known as an old world bat, a megabat, or a flying fox)

Scientists believe that bats are the culprits that harbour the virus. Apes and humans catch Ebola from eating bats or the food that the bats have drooled or defecated on, or by coming into contact with surfaces covered by infected bat droppings and then touching their eyes or mouths. The current outbreak seems to have started in a village in Guinea, where bat hunting is common.

Teacher Spotlight: Mr Goh

By Nick Chan



Mr Goh, 5E Form Teacher

Mr Goh Hup Peng is an English teacher at Park View Primary. He was an engineer for 25 years before he switched to teaching as a career. When he was young, his ambition was to become a doctor.

Mr Goh loves English and thinks it is the most important subject for students to learn in school. He says, “You read to learn, not learn to read. Without a strong foundation in English, it will be challenging to understand other subjects.”

Mr Goh recalled that he was nervous on the first day of his teaching career. To his amusement, the students were more nervous, wondering if Mr Goh was a fierce teacher. The main challenge for him was that he was not sure if he could connect with young people given the big age difference. He does not have to worry about that any more.

Mr Goh’s hobbies are reading magazines and playing board games. Many of his students hope that Mr Goh will continue to be an English teacher and that he will continue to teach at Park View Primary School for many years to come.



Unveiling the Apple Watch!

By Kian Leong



The new Apple Watch

Do you wish to have a watch that can tell you what movies are playing in nearby cinemas? Well, the Apple Watch can do just that!

The Apple Watch is the company's first wearable computer. To use the Apple Watch, you must also use one of its recent iPhones. Apple's first wearable watch beams messages, Facebook updates, simplified apps and Siri to our wrists.

The watch has a strong focus on health. There is an app called Fitness which tracks statistics when the wearer is exercising. For example, a heart rate sensor helps measure your heart beat rate when you are jogging. Other features include a crown button which will prompt the watch to display show times at nearby cinemas when you give a command like, "What movies are playing nearby?"

There will be three versions of the watch — Apple Watch, Apple Watch Sport and Apple Watch Edition. Apple Watches will be available only in 2015 and the starting price for an Apple Watch is US\$350 (S\$438).



Left to Right: Apple Watch Sport, Apple Watch and Apple Watch Edition