



# The Eaglet

Dalat International School—Middle School Tanjung Bunga 11200 Penang, Malaysia

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## A SCIENCE AFFAIR! *by: Jesse Beth Thompson*

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### Issue 6 Staff:

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Sponsor: Mrs. Vicki Gross

### End of Year Events:

- Wed., May 26 - 12:30, MS Awards Assembly  
1:45, MS Activity
- Fri., May 28—Science, English final exams
- Tue., June 1—Math, Social Studies, Algebra final exams
- Sat., May 29—6:00PM, HS Concert & Fine Arts Exhibition
- May 27—June 1—School dismissed at noon
- Wed., June 2—7:00PM, HS Commencement

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, all the middle schoolers, as well as some high schoolers took part in the Dalat School science fair. The students had worked on their time consuming projects over a period of at least one month; some students took more time than that on their projects, depending on the complexity of their project. The topics the students chose to investigate ranged from trying to dye chicks an unnatural color to examining the effects of salty soil.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade winners, Jonathan Brokaw, Nathan Rague, Joshua Wong, and Rolland Leung, created a project on tsunamis and how breakwaters (big piles of rocks in the ocean) can lower the amount of damage caused by the big waves. The winners from 7<sup>th</sup> grade were Carolyn Whiting, Anna Hodgson, and Sophia To. Their creative project compared the characteristics related to the surface tension of different liquids such as water, coke, and Kool aid®.

Two groups of students took top honors in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade competition; the Best in Class and Best in Show. The 'Best in Class' honors went to Jake Latsha, Sung- In Kang, and JP Octavio, who constructed a wave- energy converting machine. The 'Best in Show' award went to Kirsten Westergren and Amanda Hansen for their project which



Left to right: Joshua Wong, Jonathan Brokaw, Nathan Rague, and Rolland Leung sport their medals after winning first place in their category.

from dog and human mouths.

Students either went home with a trophy or with the pride of a job well done. "We felt good when we won, but we think we won because my dad helped us out in many ways," Nathan Rague (6) recalled. Participating in the science fair helped students sharpen their knowledge, discover facts they didn't know about interesting things, and have a special sort of bonding time with their friends.

"I guess [the project] was worth it, because my group got to work together more, even though we didn't win anything," Tanya Krishnamani (7) stated.

## Oops! My candle went out! *by: Caleb Caldwell*

On April, 28, 2004 ,the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) New Member Induction was held in the chapel to recognize nine outstanding middle school students who show the qualities of character, leadership, citizenship, scholarship and service. In order to become a member of the honor society ,students were evaluated by their teachers on five characteristics: character, leadership, citizenship, scholarship, and service. According to these standards, a person selected on the basis of character supports the principles of morality and ethics, has high standards of honesty and reliability, and shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others. Student leaders are the ones who are resourceful, good problem solvers, idea-contributors, dependable, and exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be gained outside as well as inside of school. Students who demonstrate citizenship understand the

importance of getting involved in the school community and have a high regard for being fair. Honor Society students must have and maintain an academic grade point average of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale). The quality of service means that students contribute courteously and enthusiastically to the school or the community without being asked.

During the program, Mr. Tyas, Mr. Steinkamp, Mr. Holden, Mrs. Spangler and Mr. Smith each said something about one of these five characteristics after it had been mentioned in a selection excerpted from "The Little Prince". The story was read by Laura, Brendan and Tiffany, who are current members of the NJHS.

The nine students who were recognized for these five characters were called up on to the chapel stage where they wrote their names in a book, lit a candle and stood on the *(continued on p.4)*



Michael Whiting (8) enjoys crashing into his classmates in his yellow bumper boat.



“I can’t wait to ride the Corkscrew! It looks so awesome,” Naomi Tami (8) commented over a bowl of Rice Krispies. “Yeah, it looks like so much fun!” Replied Caleb (8), finishing up his toast. On Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, right after the eighth graders finished their break-

## The Genting Invasion by: Kirsten Westergren

fasts at the First World Hotel, they set out for a day of excitement at the Genting Indoor and Outdoor Theme Park.

The group started their day in the outdoor theme park. Some of the most amusing rides included the Corkscrew, the largest roller coaster in the park complete with upside down flips and drops; the space-shot, a stomach-dropping ride; and the ‘flying’ swings. Jake Latsha (8) commented, “I really liked the Corkscrew. I sat next to a stranger and now she’s my new girlfriend!” Other rides included bumper boats, the toboggan ride, the pink dragon and mine roller coasters and the Ferris wheel. “I really hated the toboggan ride. The second time I went on it, Michael’s toboggan which was in front of me

stopped, so I ran into him. It hurt a lot,” Brendan Frentz (8) remarked.

Along with Brendan, Naomi Tami (8) was not too happy about one of the rides she went on. “The world could have come to an end before I finished riding that dumb reindeer thing because it was going so slow!” she retorts. Despite the few defects and disappointments a few of the rides afforded, the group really did enjoy the morning.

After lunch, the class entertained themselves in the indoor theme park, largely because it was raining outside.

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## Oh, no! Lemme outta here!

A Seventh Grade Lock-in Saga by Tanya Krishnamani

On the evening of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004 the seventh grade had a lock-in on campus. Upon arrival, students dumped their overnight bags in the chapel then sat down with some pizza and drinks while watching *Cheaper by the Dozen*. Around seven pm, in the pouring rain, they crammed into a school van driven by Aunt Corrina with Evan Persons sitting up in front. Despite the rain, they reached Midlands in no time. All the way up to the seventh floor the class went, and they bowled until about 9:00 pm. After some strikes and spares, the students separated into groups to explore the mall, agreeing to meet at McDonalds around 9:30PM.

As the rain slowed down, the seventh graders returned to school. When they got there, they ran to the soccer field for a short water balloon fight. As soon they were done, they dried off and made their way to Jackson dorm to watch *Sur-*

*ivor*. After a disappointing show, they trudged back to chapel, had a little bit of free time, then watched the rest of *Cheaper by the Dozen*.

After that show, the entire seventh grade had free time until about 3:30 AM. ‘Lights out’ was supposed to be at two thirty. Oops! During that time, a few girls gave Josh Friesen (7) and Hung-Yi Song (7) makeovers. They only did their faces, but lipstick, mascara, eye shadow, and blush certainly made a big difference in their appearance. When the girls were finished, they boys looked as beautiful as princesses.

“For girls, the makeover was sloppy,” Josh Friesen commented. “I thought it was fun; I liked it. I still have my toes painted,” Hung-Yi Song complemented.

As some girls ‘made over’ the two lovely boys, most of the other sev-

enth graders played a long game of tag and red rover. Then the chaperone Aunt Corrina, said it was time to settle down. So the students shut the lights off and watched another movie called *Second Hand Lions*. After it was over, everyone was finally ready for bed.

What did everyone in 7<sup>th</sup> grade think of the lock-in?

“Being the organizer, I thought it went pretty well,” Susheela Meyyappan (7) answered thoughtfully.

“I thought it was pretty cool, we got to spend time with our friends, and we got to know them,” Naomi Matanick (7) stated.

“I think that it was O.K., we didn’t get to do some of the stuff that we planned,” Sophia To replied.

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## Mozart In 2004 by: Naomi Tami

On May the 12<sup>th</sup>, students from all grades showed off their musical talents. To start the evening, Mrs. Brokaw introduced the program and opened with a word of prayer. The performances began with a simple piano recital, ‘I’m a Puppet’, played by Addison Smith.

Middle School performers were Jonathan Brokaw (6), Naomi Matanick (7), Joy Li (8), Tiffany Steinkamp (8), Anna Latsha (6), Linnea Williams (6),

Laura Danneker (8), Sophia To (7), and Susheela Meyyappan (7). “I was soooooo terrified to go up and perform” said Steinkamp, who played “Lullaby” by Schumann.

“I’d like to dedicate the song to my brother,” declared James Hawthorne (10), who delightfully dedicated “You’ve Got a Friend in Me” to his younger brother, Joseph (2).

Special non-piano numbers by

students contented the audience as well. “I was happy to hear the violin at the recital,” sighed Carolyn Whiting (7), who enjoyed the sounds of Edwin Tan playing “Memory.”

“I liked when Matthew Hansen (10) played “*Classical Gas*,” Kirsten Westergren (8) remarked about Mathew’s guitar performance.

## Here, here, little birdie! *by: Jason Hsiao*

As Mr. Koo drove PBY out of DALAT'S front gate, Elmo Lin, Jeffrey, Harry Mak, Howard Kao, and Jason Hsiao were excitedly holding their badminton racquets. When they reached the indoor stadium, it was already full of people and the smell of sweat and smoke. After the players set their equipment and backpacks down, they quickly ran to one of the courts and got warmed up. Dalat's badminton participants played a quick game and ran a few laps to get warmed up and ready for the competition.

Elmo heard the announcement

about the start of his game and gasped, "I am not ready yet!" When he stepped on the badminton court, he laughed because he saw that his opponent was twice as tall as him. Elmo then said, "I am going to lose this game!"

Elmo served first. Then his opponent smashed him, and Elmo couldn't even hit the shuttlecock back. Elmo's final score of 21 to 2 meant that he lost his game.

The Dalat team members lost all their individual games. However, the doubles team of David Im and Kyle Lin

(both 8 graders) won their first doubles game because their opponent didn't show up!

"We were so lucky! If our opponent had come, we would surely have lost," said Kyle Lin.

But they weren't so lucky on their second game. They lost to the other doubles team. After the team arrived back at school, the members' moods were low because they lost all their tournament games.

## The Middle School Band Strikes Back!

*By: J.P. Octavio*

Our band teacher, Mr. Brokaw, held another middle school band concert on May 18, 2004. Mr. Brokaw came to Dalat School in 1979 and has taught band for the past 25 years. Since he was young, Mr. Brokaw always loved music and decided to become a band teacher during his senior high school year. "My former band teachers [helped inspire me to become a band teacher]," said Mr. Brokaw. After his high school years, Mr. Brokaw stayed determined on his path to

becoming a band teacher. Now he enjoys teaching the middle school and high school band. While conducting the band for practice or in a performance, Mr. Brokaw always shows a great attitude.

The middle school intermediate band has performed a total of four musical concerts for the school year in the chapel. They also performed once in Saint Christopher's School to accompany a Christmas program last December. Then the Saint Christopher's organizers

treated the middle school students to some refreshments afterwards in the teachers lounge. In the previous band concert, on March 18, 2004, the middle school and high school bands played some of their songs plus a zesty high school Jazz Ensemble added. Kohei Shimizu (8) commented, "The middle school band sounded great. The jazz was the best part!"

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## Genting Galore *by: David Im*

Almost all of Dalat's 8<sup>th</sup> graders went on a field trip to Genting Highland from April 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. As the eighth graders boarded the bus, they expressed excitement about getting out of Malaysia's hot weather and going to the theme park. During the bus trip, they had a break time for lunch. Then they went on...and on... until they reached the mountain top. Most students said the weather felt very different from Malaysia's usual temperature.

After reaching the Genting Highland resort, students began to feel real excitement about the outdoor and indoor theme parks. They talked and talked about what they were planning to do there.

Upon checking into the hotel, students were told who their roommate would be. Most of them were happy because they got their good friends. "YE~~~~SI!" Kohei Shimizu (8) and JP Octavio (8) were especially glad to be roommates because they happen to be best friends. After settling in to their rooms, students visited 'Ripley's Believe or Not

Museum' where they began their outing by watching a TV show about amazing people who can bend their tongues. However, if the students tried to bend their tongues as they looked into the mirror in front of them, something unpleasant happened. People who happened to be standing behind the mirror could see their faces! Many amazing and nasty things were on display at that museum such as: the tallest guy in the world, the biggest hand in the world, a blue faced guy, a person who has a gold nose, a person in the oven, a person who was attacked by a shark.... "Whaaaaaaa~!" Joy Li (8) screamed when she saw the person in the oven and the person who was attacked by a shark. She even closed her eyes.

After visiting the museum, all of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and teachers ate dinner at Pizza Hut. Everybody's mouths seemed to water as they made their pizza selections. Some eighth graders ate

three or more pieces while others ate only two pieces. 'Wow! It was a great dinner!' Kyle Lin (8) said later. However Brendan Frentz (8) commented, "Wasn't the cheese stuff nasty?"

Next morning, all of the students went upstairs to the hotel restaurant for breakfast, but there were not enough places to eat and half the food was already gone. Even Mr. Smith said, "The worst part of the trip was trying to fight through the crowds to get food and find a seat." However, most students had a good lunch and dinner because they got money from Mr. Smith and ate where they wanted.

On Saturday, the students and the teachers had to return to school. "The worst thing was that trip ended so soon," Mr. Joel Steinkamp said. Later, when comparing notes about the hotel, some students complained because the bathrooms and showers were so small. It was a small price to pay for such a

## Band Strikes back

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On Tuesday, May 18, 2004, the middle school band performed their last band concert in the chapel. The middle school students thoroughly enjoyed playing in the concert. Nia Diago (7) said quite pleased, "I really liked the concert, it was fun playing. We all did our best." The concert ran smoothly, with first the choir singing some songs and the beginning band performing Ceremonium, Trumpet Voluntary, American Folk Trilogy, The Challenger, and This Rockin' Band. Then the intermediate band took their spots and played Arrowhead, Russian Sailor's Dance, Star Wars Saga, and Workin' Out.

After the concert, a number of varied opinions came out on which song was best played by the intermediate band. Mr. Liss found the last song, Workin' Out, to be the best sounding one.

Other musical performances are on the way. For Dalat School's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Dalat International School will hold a 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, May 30 at 4:30. Both the middle and high school bands will play Lord of the Rings and other songs with all the choir groups out on the campus. Come and be enthralled with the music of the entire Dalat School band.



*Sleeping Beauty... Josh Friesen at the lock-in*

## Lock-in

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What about the chaperones, what did they think of the lock-in?

"I was surprised that everyone stayed up so late, but I thought it was cool. I had a good time watching the movies and having pizza," Evan Persons said laughing.

"It was awesome. The kids were well behaved and I would definitely do it again," Aunt Corrina complimented the seventh graders.

Susheela Meyyappan did an excellent job organizing the seventh grade lock-in, and all of the students had a blast.

## Oops!

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right hand side of the stage. These nine students were Breanne Hansen (7), Anna Hodgson (7), Tanya Krishnamani (7), Susheela Meyyapan (7), Sophia To (7), Kelsey Rague (7) Juan Paolo Octavio (8), Jesse Beth Thompson (8), and Kirsten Westergren(8). As Brendan, Laura or Tiffany recognized each new member, a slide show featuring his or her picture flashed on the screen.

It seems that most of the nominees were surprised when their names were called. "I was surprised that I got in and I was kind of nervous about getting on stage and getting my pictures getting shown on the screen...I was shaking the whole I time!" said Tanya (7). "I was kind of surprised at first and then I felt exited after I heard my name called," said Susheela (7).

Jesse Beth, on the other hand, saw her parents in the audience and it occurred to her that she might find herself on the stage that morning. "When I saw my parents, I sort of had an idea that I would be inducted because my parent wouldn't just be there to see everyone else inducted and not me," said Jesse Beth.

After the assembly, students who had been inducted into the National Junior Honor Society as well as their parents enjoyed refreshments.

## The Genting Invasion

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They enjoyed the Motion Master Ride, featuring a truck following an ice cube, the bumper cars, the merry-go-round, the indoor roller coaster and more.

"We wanted to go on the log flume but it was closed because it was raining. Instead, we just kept going on the bumper cars." Tiffany Steinkamp (8) explained. "My favorite ride was the Merry-Go-Round. I got to ride on a pink and blue pony. It was so pretty!" Amanda Hansen (8) chirped gaily. "The second time I tried going on it though, they said I was too old! It wasn't fair."

"The class trip was a blast! There were so many fun things that we did" Caleb Caldwell (8) concludes at the end of the day. "I'm glad I went!" Caldwell's opinion definitely expresses that of most. All in all Genting was a successful trip and it gave the class a chance to hang out together.



*Eighth grade field trip participants – left to right: (Third Row) Sung, Jake, Jon, Kohei, David, Kyle, J.P., Paul, (Second Row) Greg, Brendan, Laura, Jesse Beth, Kirsten, Amanda, Naomi, Joy, Tiffany, Mari, Cindy, Miho (First Row) Michael and Caleb.*