

# Educational Feature

July is Speak Good English month. The theme this year is 'Grammar Rules' and we are back to basics.

Grammar is crucial when communicating in English, without which, communication can lack effectiveness and clarity. A good foundation in grammar rules ensures a better command and delivery of the English language, which can then lead to better personal and business communications, and even translate to enhancing prospects in a job or career.

Can you follow what I am saying? Or could you follow what I am saying? 'Could' is a commonly misused word.

Confused? Don't be. Let's look at how we can use 'could'! Let's see if we can figure out when to use 'could' once and for all.

- 'Could' can be used to talk about the past, the present or the future. 'Could' is a past form of 'can'**
  - When I was living in Singapore, I could walk to work.
  - Jim called to say he could not come to the party.
- 'Could' is used to make polite requests. We can also use 'can' for these requests but it is more polite to use 'could'.**
  - Could you help me, please?
  - Could you lend me some money?
- If we use 'could' in reply to these requests, it suggests that we do not really want to do it. If you agree to the request, it is better to use 'can'.**
  - Of course I can. / I can, of course.
  - I could help you if it's really necessary but I'm really busy right now.
- 'Could' is used to talk about possibility and is similar in meaning to 'might'.**
  - It could rain later. Take an umbrella.
  - He could be there by now.

Examples adapted and modified from:  
<http://www.englishgrammarsecrets.com/could/menu.php>

For more information on the Speak Good English Movement, go to:  
[www.goodenglish.org.sg](http://www.goodenglish.org.sg)



ADMIRALTY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Connecting the community @ Admiralty



Smithika Senthil Kumar  
2 Endurance

Yoshita Kumaran  
4 Challenge

Kavyasri  
4 Challenge

Soorya Anand  
2 Integrity

## 4TH INTERSCHOOL TAMIL STORY-TELLING COMPETITION

Smithika Senthil Kumar from 2 Endurance, as well as Shraavan Nandakumar and Soorya Anand from 2 Integrity represented our school in the Junior Category. S. Kavyasri and Yoshita Kumaran from 4 Challenge, as well as Sheena Grace from 4 Endurance represented our school in the Intermediate Category.

Vishal Theerthagiri from 5 Challenge and Dheekshitha Murali Krishnan from 5 Endurance represented our school in the Senior Category.

A total of 354 students from 51 schools participated in the competition. A total of 30 students, 10 from each category, were selected from the preliminary rounds to take part in the final round. Smithika, Soorya, Kavyasri and Yoshita were selected for the final round.

Smithika came in 2nd and Soorya came in 3rd place in the Junior Category. Kavyasri and Yoshita were awarded the Certificate of Merit in the Intermediate Category.

Let's give praise to our Tamil pupils who have done our school proud and also those who have represented our school in the competition.

## EARTH HOUR 2014

Some pupils from Scouts, Brownies, Green Club and Innovation Club came together to commemorate Earth Hour at The Float @ Marina Bay. Earth Hour has become a global phenomenon since it first started in 2007. Since then, millions of individuals around the world will turned their lights off for an hour to take a stand against climate change. Earth Hour is a global movement organised by the WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature).

This year, in a unique partnership, Spiderman was the first superhero ambassador for Earth Hour. The motive was to inspire everybody to be superheroes and use their power to make a positive change to the environment. Singapore is the home of Earth Hour and is at the epicentre of the global movement towards a sustainable future.

The event sought to raise awareness on climate change and how we can play a part in using resources more responsibly to help cope with the change. The local and foreign artistes who came to perform helped to drive home the message that everyone can play a part in preserving our Earth through responsible usage of resources. The highlight of the event for our pupils was meeting the cast of the movie 'Spiderman 2' – namely Andrew Garfield and Emma Stone. Our pupils learnt a lot about saving the Earth from the event and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, especially during the one-hour 'lights-off' event.

For more information on this yearly event, go to: <http://www.earthhour.org/>



## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

Theme: Stories We Share

The commemoration of International Friendship Day provides our pupils the opportunity to learn and appreciate different cultures in cosmopolitan Singapore. Our hope is for them to have an open mind and to express their appreciation of the contributions of foreigners living, working and studying in Singapore.

There were various activities during the week. It started off with a skit by the Drama Club members during Assembly period. Teachers then followed up with a lesson during the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) period that week. One

highlight was the Used Book Donation Drive for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan. This allowed the Primary 4 to 6 pupils to do their part for a larger community that we live in – the Association of the South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

We also collaborated with our Parent Support Group (PSG) who conducted a 'Friendship Band' workshop and shared stories of different cultures with our pupils during their recesses for the week. They also set up exhibition booths to showcase the different aspects of culture in various countries, such as the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.





# Our Sports Achievements



## WUSHU

The 10th National Primary Schools Wushu Championships 2014 was held over 8 days, from 24 March to 3 April 2014. More than 1,000 student participants across 98 primary schools participated in the Championships this year.

Admiralty Primary School sent out a total of 32 pupils, taking part in 46 individual events and 6 group events. Our pupils spent many hours after school, training hard for the competition. Their efforts paid off, as 20 individuals achieved the top 6 positions and 3 groups achieved top 6 positions in the group events.

These achievements are due to their self-discipline and perseverance. Let's salute their great efforts!



## ROPE SKIPPING

Our rope skippers participated in 27 events at the North Zone Primary Schools Rope Skipping Championships on 26 and 27 March. The top four in each category and division qualified for the National Primary Schools Rope Skipping Championships on 16 and 17 April.

We won 16 prizes in individual and group events in the North Zone Championships.

We are also proud that for the North Zone Championships, we are 3rd in position for the Senior Girls division, 3rd in position for the Senior Boys division and 4th for the Junior Boys Division.

Another big achievement for us is that the Junior Boys Double Dutch team came in 1st for the National Rope Skipping Championships.

Well done, rope skippers!

## TRACK AND FIELD

This year, our athletes participated in the 55th Nationals Inter-Primary School Track & Field Championship which took place at Bishan Stadium. Competition was intense with 85 primary schools vying for the coveted divisional titles.

Our student athletes tried their best but this was not to be our year. It was a good learning experience for all. The teachers made use of the opportunity to teach the athletes the importance of perseverance. Track and Field aims to develop the growth mindset in them and to start believing that effort enhances ability. They must never give up and put in more effort to overcome the challenges in their pursuit of excellence. We aim to be back stronger next year!

### Our achievements:

#### Primary 5 - "C" Division

Nurulain Hamizah Bte Sariman (5 Endurance) - 4th in 100m event

#### Primary 4 - "B" Division

Boon Shi Ling Daura (4 Gallantry) - 2nd in 200m event

Individually, these athletes brought pride and joy not only to the school but also to themselves. We say, way to go!



# Our SYF Achievements

The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) was launched on 18 July 1967 by President Yusof Ishak. It was first started to identify and nurture the talents and abilities of our pupils. Various performing arts groups from Admiralty Primary School took part in the SYF this year. They are the Choir, Guitar Ensemble, Chinese Dance, Malay Dance and Indian Dance.

## CHOIR

2014 is a year of excellent achievement for the school Choir. They achieved the Distinction award for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) National Choir 2014 Arts Presentation. There were 118 choir groups from other schools.

There is an old Chinese saying: 3 minutes on stage needs 10 years' worth of hard work off the stage. Preparation for SYF began last year. The Primary 6 members who participated in the SYF this year joined the Choir when they were only in Primary 2. The choir's success is the result of the long period of nurturing and development. This year's participants displayed the values of diligence and perseverance; they also showed that they value teamwork. Giving their best and always encouraging one another, they also serve as good role models for our aspiring choir performers in SYF 2016.



## GUITAR ENSEMBLE

13 pupils from the Guitar Ensemble participated in the SYF this year. Preparation started in October last year. All of them were passionate in their pursuit of perfection and showed that through their commitment during extra practice sessions. They were awarded the Certificate of Accomplishment due to their perseverance, discipline and diligence. Kudos to our Guitar Ensemble! Our Guitar Ensemble SYF participants have definitely set good examples for the other members to follow. We hope to keep up with this achievement in the next SYF in 2016!



## CHINESE DANCE

The title of the dance is "苗儿趣事", translated to be "Miao Girls Having Fun". It has a beautiful melody and originates from the Miao Tribe in China.

It depicts a group of young girls playing at the vast, green field. From the dance, we can feel the tribe's dynamism and passion for life as portrayed by the dancers.

During the practice sessions, participants learn the value of teamwork, as this is the most essential when it comes to dancing as a group and participating in competitions. Through hard work and endurance, the dancers attained the Certificate of Accomplishment in the 2014 SYF.

## MALAY DANCE

Our Malay dancers who were awarded the Gold Award in SYF 2012 maintained an excellent record of obtaining the highest external accolade for a primary school for dance. They were awarded the Certificate of Distinction by a panel of local and overseas dance masters.

The dancers deserved the award because they were 'fantastically fantastic' performers in their presentation. Their many hours of gruelling practices did not go to waste. Through this experience, many of the performers said that they learnt the values of diligence and perseverance. They also learnt how to value teamwork through this experience.



## INDIAN DANCE

The Indian Dance Club consists of dancers who are trained in different aspects of Traditional Indian Classical and Indian Folk dance. The Indian Dance Club dancers showed their talent at the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF). They were awarded the Certificate of Distinction for their performance. Through preparing for performances, both the senior and junior dancers have raised their proficiency levels and their personal confidence.

The Indian Dance Club aims to not only develop the dancers' skills in the different dance forms but also to learn values like resilience as they go through the rigorous training. Indian Dance members also possess "can-do" attitude and that is why they have achieved the highest award for SYF this year.

