



# GYESEONG TIMES

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## Blessing a New Year with Gratitude



Principal  
**Kang, Kyungsoo (Sr. Cecilia)**

Greetings to all students of Gyeseong Elementary School! Another year has passed and the year 2015 has begun. The animal that represents this year is the sheep, which is an animal that often appears in the Bible, too. The sheep is described as a sincere and obedient animal that listens and follows its keeper well. Occasionally, a sheep is depicted as a representation of God in the Bible. This is because sheep were used as sacrificial offerings by people and it resembles how Jesus sacrificed himself for us.

Like the sincere and obedient sheep, I hope all students of Gyeseong Elementary School will be earnest and compliant to their parents and teachers during the year of the sheep. Moreover, there are students who are unable to attend a school and receive an education due to sickness and poverty. I am hopeful that our students will be compassionate to those students in need and have willingness to help them like Jesus.

Last year, Pope Francis visited Korea. He spread kindness and left us with much love. Like his words of love and wisdom, I hope to see our students of Gyeseong Elementary School to strive to make Korea a beautiful and peaceful place with love.

I pray for my dearest Gyeseong students to grow with a beautiful mind and body in 2015.

## Farewell, Gyeseong!



Vice-Principal  
**Lee, Ho-Geun**

A long time has passed. It has been almost 35 years since I started working at Gyeseong, and now it is time for me to say good-bye. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the Gyeseong staff and all of the Gyeseong students as well as their parents. I leave with cherishing and happy memories that fill my heart with joy, thankfulness, and fulfillment. I will always think of Gyeseong in my prayers. God bless you all!

It is thanks to you and your dedication and love towards the school that have made my stay here so welcoming and pleasant. In spite of my absence, I am hopeful that everyone will continue to work and thrive to make Gyeseong into a better school by promoting its main principles of love, honesty, and consideration for others.

Once again, I sincerely thank everyone for all the support and help that I have received throughout all these years. I will always wish the best for the school. May the Lord's peace be with you always and forever!



# Grade 1 Creative Writing

**The My Friend Depending**

from Liz, Rachel, Elsa, Justin, Alex, and Sang-Hyeon I felt familiar enough and adorable around and had a warm feeling. It did make me look or feel in a new wonderful class with a super good, great teacher getting along together. I think this class's semester will attach very easily. Yay! Also hooray for the class!

I was depended from my friend when I didn't know any about. Beyond class, the best class I got help from familiar friends around me to make me not unfamiliar from Beyond class. I got depended.



1-Wisdom  
Lee, Yunu  
(Yunu)

**The: A pet**

My pet is a cat.  
My cat's name is Candy.  
My cat likes to catch a ball.  
My cat likes to catch a mouse too.  
My cat is very cute.  
My cat hates a dog.



1-Wisdom  
Lee, Sang-Jin  
(Damian)

**What is this?**

Somehow very uncomfortable. We have to wait for our turns all the occasions. People read, write, play games, and watch TV show. It has many lights. It has many tables. You have to be quiet. You should not bother each others. You have to listen carefully, and follow directions. You can also do shopping.

Do you want to guess what I will say? Listen carefully. A lot of people use this. This is really big but can be small. It is mostly gray inside. It has lots of windows. It is very comfortable but

What is this?  
An airplane!



1-Wisdom  
Shin, Chae-Rin  
(Rachel)

**The Great Inventions**

Some new ideas are inventions things no one has seen before. Many inventions make a job to be done more easily. Everyday we use all kinds of great inventions when we switch on the light, phone, friends or pop popcorn in the microwave. I think wheel and axle is a simple and great machine. The axle is the rod that passes through the center of the wheel to the rest of the vehicle. The wheel and axle is a great tool for moving things from one place to another. Most cars, bicycles and roller blades use the wheel and axle. These vehicles take us to places far away. The television is the greatest invention in the world. It is a way of communication among people of one country and different countries. People watch TV find out about the news, weather and sports. It is a good way to learn new things. Also TV makes us relax and leave our troubles while lying on our favorite sofa and watching a movie or a comedy. I decided the pencil holder is a usable invention in my school life. I use a pencil when writing. The problem was that most of my pencils were broken or too short to use. I find my plastic tube makes my short pencil longer. All these inventions are very helpful and I'm thankful. I can use them everyday!



1-Gentleness  
Choi, Jae-Woo  
(Zeus)

**The Happy Sunday**

needs lots of my family's help. On Sunday my dad cooks breakfast and my sister and I clean our room. We arrange our toys, books, and bed. Each person does their job and another can help them when they are finished. Our family loves spending time together.

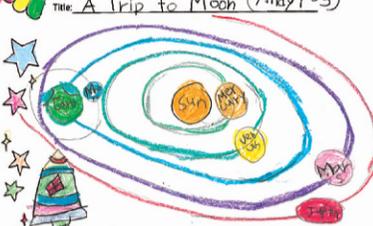
My family members are father, mother, younger sister and me. Usually, my mother works very hard for my family at home. She works to do laundry, washing dishes, helping me for my homework and cooking everyday. I think she is very busy and she



1-Gentleness  
Seo, Yeon-Woo  
(Julie)

# Grade 1 Creative Writing

**Title: A Trip to Moon (Andy-3)**



I saw the aliens and astronauts. They were friends there. I played hide-and-seek with them. It was so fun. The aliens looked like squirrels.

After the moon, I went to Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. It was exciting.

It was a wonderful trip to the moon.

This is my story of trip to the moon.

Today I went to the moon with a new special jet spaceship. Thanks to this special jet, it took only 20 minutes to go there.

When I arrived at the moon,



1-Love  
Lee, Seung-Joo  
(Andy)

**Title: My Dad is ...**



I think my father is the greatest designer in the world and I am proud of him.

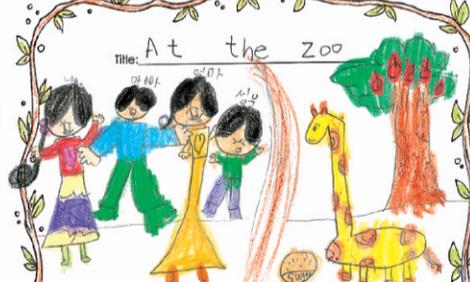
My mom is very busy when I am at school. She always keeps the house clean and prepare my meals. Sometimes she says she is too tired to do it and the house chores. I help my mom often. I am very thankful to my parents. I love them very much!

When I am at school my dad is also at work. My dad is a designer. He designs many things. Sometimes he brings things that he designs to home. I like to use them a lot. I



1-Love  
Choi, Won-Joon  
(June)

**Title: At the zoo**

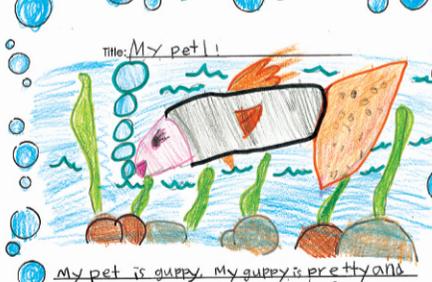


My family went to the zoo. Dad drove the car. We saw giraffes, hippos, meerkats, elephants, and rhinos. The hippo was very big and heavy. I watched baby pandas. They were very cute. The chimpanzee was very playful. The orangutan was not playful.



1-Truth  
Kang, Yeon-Woo  
(Ellen)

**Title: My pet!**



My pet is guppy. My guppy is pretty and colorful. My guppy is special. Guppy is living with me for a long time. Guppy's head is white, body is black, tail is red. Guppy is small as my finger.

Guppy knows when I am close to the bowl. Guppy swims to me. I like guppy when it swims for fish food.

I want to play with guppy for a long time.

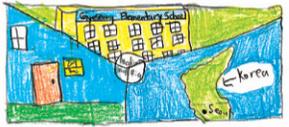


1-Truth  
Ahn, So-Hyeon  
(Naomi)



# Grade 2 Creative Writing

Title: How to Help my Community  
 Name: Seungho Date: 1/6



Do you like your community? If yes, do you can help it? I want to help it. I would not throw trash everywhere. I could be kind to my friends. I can even listen to my teacher. Helping is fun!

A big community I live in is Seoul. I cannot throw trash on the ground. Our community will be very dirty. I don't want anyone to do this. Most men throw cigarettes around on the street. I don't like this.

I go to Gyeongsang Elementary School. I learn many different things from teachers and meet new friends. I like it, but sometimes the children are not nice. They are angry or sad. I don't like that either.

In Gyeongsang Elementary School, my classroom is 2-1. It is called "Wisdom." We learn from our teacher. I can help by not talking while the teacher is talking. I hope everyone does that too!

Helping is not that hard. I will not throw trash on the ground and not be rude. I'll be happy and not be noisy. I think you should help our community. Maybe you'll see me helping one day!



2-Wisdom  
Jang, Seung-Ho  
(Seungho)

Title: My October Story

Grade/Class: 52/1 Student No.: 52 Name: Mina (김경민)

October is my favorite month.  
 Cat likes October, too.  
 Tree is changing.  
 October is pretty.  
 Birth day is coming.  
 Very happy likes October.  
 Read my October story.



2-Wisdom  
Kim, Kyung-Min  
(Mina)

Topic: My favorite Ride

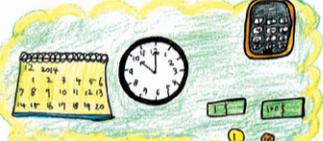


I like spinning swing. I couldn't ride it before, because I was scared. But later when I wanted to ride it I was too short to ride it. Finally now a days I can ride most of sides I want to ride. And most of all I like spinning swing. I rode 8 times straight with my friends. Next time I want to ride water slide.



2-Wisdom  
Lee, Ri-Na  
(Rina)

Title: Importance of NUMBERS (2-2 김승 Joshua)



I think numbers are important in our life because numbers are very useful tools. I can tell time when I watch a clock. So I can know when I get up, when I go to school. And I can know the class time or rest time, lunchtime, time to go home from school. Numbers are used in a calendar. The number, count money. If there were no numbers, I can't keep my appointment because I don't know the time. And it would be uncomfortable because I can't know the date, the month, a phone number and to count money.



2-Gentleness  
Kim, Da-Won  
(Joshua)

Topic: Imagine that you are the queen or king of the sky. Describe your sky kingdom.

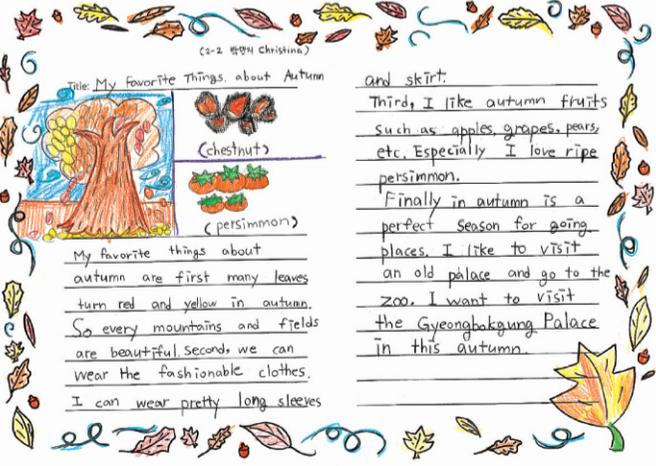
Title: Joon K's Sky Kingdom

If I had a super power, I would make my own sky kingdom. I would make a ballroom, PC room, restaurant, and training ground. First, I could dance with my queen in the ballroom. Next, I could play computer games in the sky PC room. Then, I could eat cloud bread in the sky restaurant. Cloud bread would be yummy. Last, I could fight with a devil at the training ground. I really love my sky kingdom.




2-Gentleness  
Kim, Joon-Sung  
(Joon K.)

Title: My favorite Things about Autumn (2-2 박민 Christina)



My favorite things about autumn are first many leaves turn red and yellow in autumn. So every mountains and fields are beautiful. Second, we can wear the fashionable clothes. I can wear pretty long sleeves and skirt.

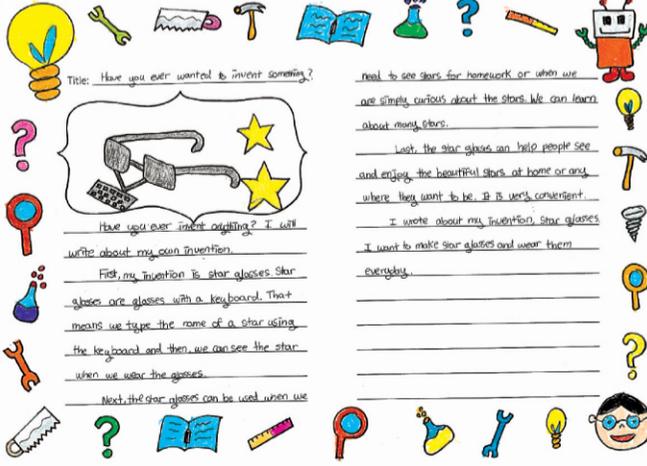
Third, I like autumn fruits such as apples, grapes, pears, etc. Especially I love ripe persimmon.

Finally in autumn is a perfect season for going places. I like to visit an old palace and go to the zoo. I want to visit the Gyeongbokgung Palace in this autumn.



2-Gentleness  
Park, Min-Ji  
(Christina)

Title: Have you ever wanted to invent something?



Have you ever invent anything? I will write about my own invention.

First, my invention is star glasses. Star glasses are glasses with a keyboard. That means we type the name of a star using the keyboard and then we can see the star when we wear the glasses.

Next, the star glasses can be used when we need to see stars for homework or when we are simply curious about the stars. We can learn about many stars.

Last, the star glasses can help people see and enjoy the beautiful stars at home or any where they want to be. It is very convenient.

I wrote about my invention, star glasses. I want to make star glasses and wear them everyday.



2-Gentleness  
Huh, Seo-Young  
(Kate)

# Grade 2 Creative Writing

Title: I am the King of the sky

When I am the King of the sky, I will make a castle. The castle will have a rainbow bridge, and this rainbow will also be a slide. There will be a cloud seesaw and rain water pool. I will eat cloud bread, rainbow cake, and rain water juice. The people here will be able to fly like a bird. I will be able to teleport too. I will invite many people to my sky kingdom.

I will have a party every day. I will be happy.



Title: A Sky Castle

If I were the queen of the sky, I will make rainbow colored fruit. I will have all the colors of the rainbow. There will also be a castle made of crystals. I will see the stars, moon, sun and clouds from a near distance. I will also have 15 unicorns, and 16 dragons will fly around. In my sky village, you can play a unicorn game, dragon game and cloud game. Also, you can eat sun candy,

cloud candy, star candy and moon candy. My room in the kingdom will be the prettiest and most special. It will be wonderful. Wow!



2-Love  
Kim, Gang-Min  
(Tim)



2-Love  
Bae, Seo-Hyun  
(Kelly)

My favorite ride



My favorite ride is Viking. Because when I go up and down it is very exciting. It sometimes scary as well, but I love it! It is very fun when I ride the Viking with my mom, dad and sister. ♪♪♪

Jenny 2 love

Title: Invention (Umbrella Necktie)



My invention is umbrella necktie. It is umbrella, but it use for a necktie. It is small and has purple dots, and there is a tiny black handle for grabbing it. Also we don't need an overcoat, too. And it is useful for officers who are going home at nighttime.

We wear it on our neck and we use it when it is rainy. When officer didn't bring the umbrella on rainy day, he or she have to go home without an umbrella. However, when we buy an umbrella necktie, we can use it like umbrella on rainy day, and we can go home without the original umbrella. When we push a tiny button that is on the umbrella necktie, the umbrella become open, automatically. This was my invention the "Umbrella Necktie," and I hope it really be useful in FUTURE!!!

My favorite ride!



My favorite ride is a skate board and bike, but I like skate board is even more and my dad let me a skateboard a month ago. I know how to turn and stop up. I need to see how to stop by skate board, and I like a very good time. Thank you! Dadman I love you!!!



2-Love  
Oh, Soo-Jin  
(Jenny)



2-Love  
Im, Yoon-Ji  
(Emily)



2-Truth  
Lee, Ju-Heon  
(Michael)

Title: My own invention



Have you ever wanted to make your own invention? This will help you think of some ideas. I will right my own invention.

My invention is called (ATF) this invention can talk to animals and talk to fish. I can hear what the animal and fishes want to say. When you want to talk to animals, you just need to eat the (ATF)

capsule. Then you could talk with animals and fish. When you have a pet, pet can understand our language so it will be very helpful.

So I wrote about my invention. Don't forget it! my invention is called (ATF)!

Title: Small Confidence, Growing Stronger and Bigger

If I could change one thing about myself...

Wow! So many things I could do! I could make myself tall, be quiet, or be good at everything. There are plenty of things I could do, but there is only one thing I really want to change. That children will not want to change this, but I would like to change this. Do you know what this is? It is confidence.

I'm always scared of trying hard or new things. When I start to do hard and new things, I'm afraid first.

I don't have confidence. This always makes me feel bad.

I'm also shy when I have to do public speaking. In so shy that I didn't participate in the Skit contest two times!

This is all because I have less confidence. My mom says I have to be in many contests when I become a third grader.

I must have stronger confidence when I enter third grade.

I will try to grow my confidence. To grow my confidence, I should keep trying even if I fail. Also, I should practice very hard. Once jump rope looked hard to me, but I practiced and tried to succeed. Now, I'm so good at jump rope that I can do one thousand jumps in one day.

So if I could change one thing about myself, I would have stronger and bigger confidence. I would try to have the most confidence then, I can be good at almost everything. I would be a catch like my friends. That's what I would change about myself.



2-Truth  
Oh, Seung-Min  
(Kevin)



2-Truth  
Hong, Ji-Min  
(Jenny)



# Grade 3 Creative Writing

## Do You Work Together?

3-Wisdom Park, Yoon (Yoon)



Have you ever worked in a team before? Or have you worked together with your friends to solve a problem? This is an example of teamwork, in other words, cooperation. Why is working together a good way to solve a problem? Well, let's find out that now.

The first reason working together is a good way to solve a problem is because it only takes a short time. For example, let's say that there is a project that some kids need to finish. If they divide the jobs between one another, one person wouldn't have to do it all, and they would not get tired. Or here is another example: Let's say there is a trash problem in a small town. If part of the town picked the trash up, and the others separated the trash into the correct trashcans, no one would be tired and the town would be sparkly clean after that.

The second reason is because you can meet more new friends as you work together. For example, if some friends are working together and hadn't met before, as they work together they could become good friends. Let me give you another example: If two townspeople meet after having a big fight two years ago, they could walk the streets together and become close friends again.

The third reason is that you can get good ideas. If you collect all the ideas, you can get a much better one!

This is why working together is a good way to solve a problem.



## The Best Doctor

3-Wisdom Jang, Jae-Yeon (Jasmine)



I want to be a doctor when I grow up because a doctor saves people's lives. But I want to do it for free. My favorite doctor is Dr. Ki-Ryeo Jang. He is famous because he doesn't ask to be paid after giving a medical treatment to someone. Many people don't understand why Dr. Jang didn't receive money from poor patients. Dr.

Jang even opened a back door for poor patients, so they could come and go more easily.

If I become a doctor, I want to be like him. If my patients can't pay for medical treatment, I will secretly drop my credit card or some money on the floor and say, "Oops! You dropped this. Pay the bill with this." and the patient will say, "Oh, thank you, Dr. Jang!" This will make me feel happy!

Are you worried how I will become the best and most rich doctor? Well, I will think about it when I grow up!:)

## When I Had to Make a Difficult Decision

3-Gentleness Jeon, Yae-Ri (Jerry)



I had to think very hard on my birthday when my mom and dad told me to choose a present. I think this was my most difficult decision. Last year, it was so difficult to choose a present. I wanted to get a toy, comic book, Wii game, and video. Oh, there were so many presents that I wanted! However, my mom said that I could only choose one thing. I finally chose something, but now I can't even remember what I chose! Now, I can only think about what I will choose as a Christmas present, birthday present, and Children's Day present. I think that choosing a present is a very big and difficult decision.



## I Want to Immigrate to Singapore

3-Gentleness Park, Jae-Hyung (Joshua)



If I could immigrate to another country, I would move to Singapore to live. I want to immigrate to many other countries, but Singapore is the most and best of all of them.

The first reason I choose it is because of English. I can speak English and Chinese. Therefore, Singapore is the perfect country for a bilingual person like me.

The second reason is that the roads and streets are very clean. Nobody throws trash and spits on the streets. The special thing is that we can't buy gum in any stores, so we don't have to worry about getting a chewing gum stuck on our shoes.

The third reason is that it's warm and hot there all year. Singapore is located in a hot and humid place near the equator. Whenever I want to swim, I can do it any day. Also, there are many islands near Singapore, and it's good to play and travel to other islands.

# Grade 3 Creative Writing

The last reason is because of its various kinds of food. I can eat ramen from every country. I can taste each country's ramen with its specific flavors, like king crab ramen, miso ramen, shrimp ramen, Shin ramen, and many more! I can also eat Chinese food in Chinatown, Indian food in Little India, and Arabian food in Arab Street.

Can you understand why I want to immigrate to Singapore? There are more reasons like the safe community, convenient transportation, and high education system. I like Singapore very much in spite of its high prices and unkind people.



## Voting for a Class President

3-Love Lee, Shi-Won (Sean)



Do you know why voting is important? There are many people, so we can't gather in a place, discuss, and decide about certain issues. We select representatives by voting, and they tell our thoughts instead of us. Voting is a powerful weapon to express our thoughts. So, we need to be careful and serious when we vote. For example, I would like to describe my experience of voting.

Our class was voting for a class president in September. First, I could nominate the one I want to be class president or myself. He or she could be an official candidate when at least four people said they supported him or her to run for class president. Next, the candidates made short speeches in front of all their classmates. I heard their speeches very carefully and considered who would be the best person to become our class president. Then, our teacher gave us a blank paper to write the candidate's name that we wanted and chose. The one who got the most votes was elected as the class president. The teacher announced the winner, and everyone celebrated her nomination. I was satisfied with the result because I voted for her. I think she is doing her job very well.

I learned from that experience that we can share and express our thoughts through voting. It will be exciting to vote for a leader to make our country better when I grow up.



## I Love The Math Thief

3-Love Kwon, Joon-Woo (Cyon)



My favorite book is *The Math Thief*. The main character's name is Dodo. The setting of this story is in Ice Castle. Dodo went to Ice Castle to defeat the winter demon, who lived in Ice Castle. But the winter demon was so powerful that Dodo was sent to Ice Hell. I like this story because it is very exciting and fun. Besides, you can learn difficult math, too!



## I'm Tired...

3-Truth Jeon, Hyeong-Soo (Amy)



Today, I went to my swimming lesson. I was nervous because I didn't know how to swim well. My mom told me that if there is a sport where I can use my body, I should learn how to do it and let my body memorize that motion. So, I am thankful to my mom. Now, I am at Kolon Sporex, a sports center with a swimming pool. The teacher said today to only swim and that there was no break time. Thirty minutes passed... "Teacher, I'm too tired!" All my friends said the same thing, too! I said it again, but the teacher said to just continue to swim. However, the last time was very fun because we played a game. Too tired, yet too fun... What is my mood like now? I don't know....



## Becoming an Architect

3-Truth Jung, Eui-Chan (Patrick)



When I grow up, I want to be an architect. Since I was 5 years old, I liked to design buildings, apartments, and houses. Especially, I want to design the tallest building in the world. Then, a lot of people will visit the building that I designed. If that happens, I will be very happy. I want to be an architect for my happiness.





# Grade 4 Creative Writing

## My Diary

4-Wisdom **Lee, Hoon-Jae** (Jay)



In today's diary, I would like to talk about such exciting events that happened today.



Today morning at 7 a.m., I woke up very slowly like a snail. When I opened the window, the sky was just one sheet of paper painted in blue. I ate breakfast and dashed to school like a cheetah.

During class time, I concentrated on learning and opened my eyes like a hawk. At lunch time, I ate lunch quickly as Usain Bolt. I played soccer with my friends, and we were animals full with excitement. After the soccer game, we went into class, and we were balls with sweat all over. After school, I walked home slowly as a turtle.

When I arrived home, I dressed up and did my homework. After I finished my homework, I became a gigantic piece of happiness. I could play! First, I tried to watch TV, but all of the channels were so boring that my face turned into a monster's face. Later, I played badminton with my dad. I was very happy when Dad said that I had got better. As it became late, I ate dinner with my family. We talked about a whole lot of things that had happened to each of us today. At night, I brushed my teeth, took a shower, and went to bed. I spent that last second of today with my pillow and my blanket.

## Dig It Out

4-Gentleness **Hwang, Ji-Yoon** (Emma)



"Hey, c' mon! I don't wanna be late!" Henry Brown yelled at Clara Sue like a mother scolding her child.

It had been a long time since Henry and Clara walked together, but nothing was different day by day until today. As Clara was walking she heard a metal screeching sound. It was louder than a tiger's roar. When she turned back, she could see little dots moving around mysteriously.

After school, when she was walking with Henry back to her house, she heard that sound again. Clara got very curious, so she tiptoed to the place like a baby squirrel looking for food. When she came close enough to the men's face, which were as sweaty as a river falling from the sky, she hid behind a big bush that made her look like a bank robber. The men were digging the dirt out and putting cement on it. Clara was starting to feel angry as a raging bull, so she eventually shouted to the strong-looking men, "You guys! Stop it!"

The men were surprised and then said,



"What's up, young lady?" Clara bravely replied, "This is an animal's habitat, including the little insects that live here!" The boss answered back, "Then why don't you call the police! Ha, ha, ha! I bet you don't even have a phone!" They were right, she thought. She had to do something else to get help.

Clara knew why the boss shouldn't be digging a hole with cement there. It was part of someone's building. So, Clara bravely walked into the building next door and said, "Please come and get the robbers who are destroying your building!" The building's manager, named Wilson Jay, came out and hollered to the boss and thanked Clara for her help.

A rumor went around later that the men and boss were arrested by the police. Clara was later thanked and interviewed by the famous newspaper *New Day's Life*.

## Starry Night

4-Gentleness **Jo, Yoon-Seo** (Amy)



Josie and Ling were good friends. They planned a sleepover at Josie's house. As the class was leaving, Mr. Cortes said, "Your weekend homework is to look at the nighttime sky and explain what you saw next week."

That afternoon, the girls arrived at Josie's house and talked in the tent. Josie's dad poked his head inside the tent and said, "Girls, it is a good time to do your homework now because it is getting dark." They grumbled because they thought it wouldn't be fun. Anyway, they looked up the sky through a telescope. They got excited because they were able to see the moon and the Big Dipper. The Big Dipper is a group of stars that looks like a giant spoon in the sky. Josie and Ling saw more stars than they had ever dreamed of! They wanted to keep looking because they enjoyed it so much. It was an exciting night.



## The Puppet Genius

4-Love **Park, In-Bin** (Viny)



"Chocolate chip cookies are important to me... They mean a whole lot to me, om nom nom nom." This quote is by Cookie Monster, a character in "Sesame Street," a show created by Jim Henson. Jim Henson was the remarkable inventor of "The Muppets" and "Sesame Street."

Jim Henson started creating characters in college as a puppeteer. His most famous character is Kermit the Frog. He worked on the children's educational television program "Sesame Street" and created many other characters. He even created "The Muppets." Recently, he came out on "The Muppets" films such as "The Muppets

# Grade 4 Creative Writing

Movie” and “The Great Muppet Caper.”

When he was young, he created puppets for a Saturday morning children’s show called “The Junior Morning Show.” He liked puppets so much that he even studied arts in college. He wanted his characters to look alive, so he started making puppets with fabric and foam rubber instead of wood. Also, he used rods to move the puppets’ arms.



He was an important inventor because he made children happy. Since many people watched and loved the show, he made the world a happier place. I watched a video of Cookie Monster, and I could not stop laughing. Without Jim Henson, I would not have had such happy moments.

In conclusion, we have fun puppet shows thanks to Jim Henson. Even though he is no longer with us, “The Muppets” and “Sesame Street” still live on.

## Dokdo, the Beautiful Island of Korea

4-Love Shim, Gyu-Jin (Jiny)



I am an honorary citizen of Dokdo. Anyone can be a citizen after having the good fortune of visiting Dokdo. This summer, my family and I were lucky to travel to Dokdo.

We can go to Dokdo when we go to Ulleungdo. To go to Ulleungdo, we have to ride a boat from Gangwondo for 3 hours and a half. Also, we have to ride another boat for an hour and a half to get to Dokdo. It is said that if the sky is clear, Dokdo would be visible from Ullengdo.

Within an hour of arriving in Dokdo, a stranger asked me some questions. He asked my age and the school that I attend. The last question caught my attention. He asked, “Do you know the song ‘Dokdo Is Our Territory’?” I answered, “Of course, I know it!” Surprisingly, he told me that he was the singer of the song. Then, I noticed that he was wearing a name tag around his neck saying “Dokdo Keeper: Kwang-Tae Jeong.”

I knew from researching Dokdo that we can ride a boat for only 60 days per year and can be on Dokdo land for 40 days per year. I am a lucky guy!

The Imperial Edict number 41 clearly stated that Dokdo is under the control of Ulleungdo. We were in possession of this noble land even back at the time.

I took the ferry back to Ulleungdo after a short visit to Dokdo. Through the windows, I saw the ROK security guards standing in a row and raising their hands and saluting to us. I was filled with so much pride and patriotism that I almost cried. Dokdo is so close to Korea

that we could see Dokdo from Ulleungdo and can freely visit it anytime. As an honorary citizen of Dokdo, I proudly say that Dokdo is our territory. Dokdo, no matter how strongly Japan argues, is our cherished and beautiful land of Korea and remains a part of our identity.

## My Favorite Time of Year

4-Truth Lee, Seung-Jun (Kyle)



Today, I will write about my favorite time of the year. My first favorite time of the year is when my dad comes back home from overseas. My next favorite day is my birthday.

My dad works abroad and visits home once every month. I always miss my dad. Whenever my dad comes back home, I play with him. He is really good. I really love him. I like spending quality time with my dad.

Another day that makes me happy is July 19th. This day is my birthday. I want to get many birthday gifts. Some friends give me toys as my birthday presents, and others give me clothes. I like them all. When I had a birthday party with my kindergarten friends, I was so excited that I wanted to celebrate my next birthday right away.

In addition, there are other days that are also my favorite such as Christmas, Children’s Day, and Halloween. Nonetheless, I cannot wait to see my dad and I am looking forward to my next birthday.



## How Does Weather Affect Us?

4-Truth Woo, Hyun-Seo (Ethan)



The weather is important in our lives. It can affect us in many ways. For example, a tornado is a dangerous kind of weather. It is a very strong, spinning cloud. It can cause big damage or harm people and houses. A tornado can destroy everything. It can even toss a car in the air. There are many other kinds of dangerous weather, such as floods, earthquakes, or tsunami. These, including tornadoes, are called natural disasters. We need to prepare for them because these are big events. Some people lose their own homes or get hurt because of these natural disasters.



Then, how can we stay safe? First, we should listen to weather reports. Second, we need to find a shelter in a basement or a room without windows. Lastly, we should listen to directions from a parent or teacher.



# Grade 5 Creative Writing

## Voting

5-Wisdom Jung, Shi-Woo (Julie)



I vote for a class or school president every semester. I think voting is important because it is about choosing a leader, or school president, who is able to make a good school. Sometimes people vote illegally. This is the biggest problem because if they vote illegally, we are not able to choose a good person as our leader. To solve this problem, we need to make a law that prevents it. But if there are still some people who try to vote illegally, our government should charge them a fine.



## Vacuum Cleaner

5-Gentleness Jang, Yae-Jun (Andy)



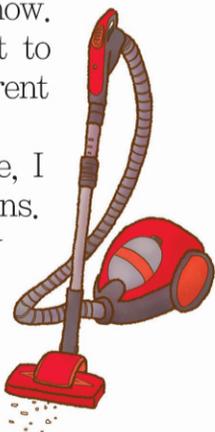
There are lots of inventions, and they all have been developed. The vacuum cleaner has brought big effects in our lives. Today, I will write about the history, development, and future expectations on the vacuum cleaner. It was interesting to write about it, so it should be even more interesting to read about it.

First is the history of the vacuum cleaner. The vacuum cleaner was invented by Cecil Booth in 1901. Cecil Booth was an English technician. One day, he saw a blowing cleaner. He thought it was inefficient, so he got to invent a vacuum cleaner. It was used to clean, and it made our lives cleaner.

Second is the vacuum cleaner's development. At first, when it was invented, it was so big that it was hard to use to clean inside the house. However, it later developed into a much smaller size. James Spangler made a small vacuum cleaner, so we can use it inside our houses now. The first vacuum cleaner is very different to the ones we have nowadays. They are different in sizes, structure, and disposal ideas.

Last are the expectations. In the future, I want vacuum cleaners to have more functions. The robot cleaner that moves automatically has already been invented, but I want a more comfortable and safer vacuum cleaner. Also, I want it to suck in fine dust. Fine dust is very small, so it is hard or impossible for the vacuum cleaner to suck it in.

I wrote about the vacuum cleaner's history, development,



and future expectations. I want its practicality to increase and to develop more functions. Nonetheless, I am thankful that the vacuum cleaner was invented because without it, we would live a dirtier life.

## Success and Failure

5-Gentleness Kwak, Eu-Hyuk (Michael)



Five months ago, I participated in a creative competition named Odyssey of the Mind. I got a good award, but I also got nothing.

First, I took some tests and became one of the seven members on my school's team. Our team was named B147 (Be One for Seven), and I was the leader. The project name was "The Not So Haunted House."

We practiced very hard and participated in Korea's national Odyssey of the Mind competition. We got the highest score, so we won first place. I felt that I could do anything: I could conquer the world.

Three months later, our team participated in the 2014 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. We prepared even more materials. It was hard work, but it was also exciting and interesting work.

Of course, my teammates and I thought about winning first place. But to our disappointment, we didn't win any prizes. So, this time I felt like I had lost the world.

Now that I've had some time to think about my experiences, I can see that we had performed very well. I also understand that both my success and failure taught me many important lessons. I learned about personal challenges, effort, courage, friendship, and confidence. I also learned from the love and support of my teachers and parents. I know that by experiencing success and failure I will become a more creative person. I vow to use these experiences to become a leader in society and to help improve our world.



## I Love My School Uniforms

5-Love Kim, Min-Ji (Emilia)



Do you have a school uniform? Some elementary schools have uniforms, and some schools do not have school uniforms. But my school does. I think a school should require a uniform for three reasons: students don't need to choose their clothes in the morning, students look tidy, and students can know what school they're in.

Firstly, schools should require a uniform because students wouldn't need to choose their clothes in the

# Grade 5 Creative Writing

morning. They could lose time by choosing the clothes they want to wear. Then, they could be late for school. So, schools should require and provide a uniform to their students.



Secondly, schools should require a uniform because it helps students look tidy. If they don't wear school uniforms, the students would be dressed very colorfully. Then, we can lose our concentration. But if they wear school uniforms, they could look tidy and concentrate more on the teachers.

Lastly, schools should require a uniform because students can know what school they're in. This can make the students feel very proud of the school they're in. Also, people would be willing to trust students more, so that is why schools should require uniforms.

In conclusion, I think schools should require school uniforms because then students wouldn't need to choose their clothes in the morning, they can look tidy, and other people can know what school they are in. I love my school uniform!

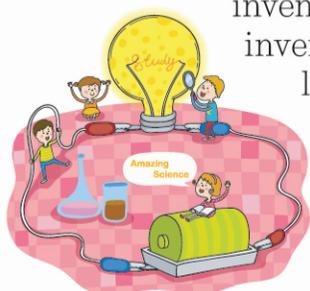
## Scientific Inventions

5-Love Cha, Seo-Hyun (Kristine)



Have you ever imagined an Earth that has no light? Light bulbs are a big scientific invention. Many people think that Edison is the person who invented the light bulb, but this information is not the right information. The light bulb's inventor is not Thomas Edison. In other words, he was not the first one to think of this idea or create a light bulb for the first time. However, he was the person who finally was able to make the light bulb be used in homes easily. Edison was a person who supplemented other scientists' light bulb problems and made new and better light bulbs, so people think Edison was the person who invented the light bulb. He made this invention to make people feel relaxed and be safer at night by turning on the light. This reason made me think that the light bulb is a very important invention to us.

The light bulb's history is not very long. There was an arc lamp that was invented in 1808 by Humphry Davy, but its light stood lit for a very short time, and the light that came out was too bright, so it couldn't be used in a home. This is the reason why people say that the first light was



invented in 1879 when Thomas Edison invented the incandescent lamp. This light bulb was used to light up the homes at night. If there wasn't a light bulb, people would spend a hard time doing anything in their homes at night blinded in the dark. Long ago, there was worry

like that, but nowadays, we have light bulbs at home, so we can do things more easily and more safely.

When the light bulb came out, it was an incandescent lamp; however, nowadays we use fluorescent lamps or LEDs. In the past, people really wanted to use incandescent lamps, but their energy efficiency was very low, so now people want to use LEDs more than the incandescent lamps. We can think the incandescent lamp's upgraded version is the LED.

Many people think that LEDs are very good light bulbs that have lots of pros, but scientists continued to study and research a lot to make even better light bulbs. Later, they made the new light bulb ESL (election-stimulated luminescence). This is cheaper than LEDs and more efficient. We can use these light bulbs as an illuminator. We can put a color on the light bulb, and when we turn on the light, it will be a colorful illumination that is cheaper than the real illumination.

Light bulbs are an amazing invention. The light bulb is called the second fire that was discovered by people after Prometheus's fire. It made our lives brighter, safer, and easier. I think we need to continue to develop newer and better light bulbs that will eventually cross out all of the cons and leave all the good things for the people to enjoy. If there aren't any light bulbs, our lives will not be efficient and comfortable. Also, people will be scared when they walk in the streets at night, so we can feel and know that the light bulb is a valuable invention for us.

## Coco Chanel

5-Truth Hong, Ji-Oh (Sophie)



Everyone has their own role models. The role models could be a designer, a scientist, a writer, or a nurse. My role model is a fashion designer named Coco Chanel.

Coco Chanel was born in France. When she was young, her mother died so she had to work in an orphanage. At the age 13, she first started to learn how to make clothes. Even though she had many failures, she didn't give up her dream. As a result, she became a famous fashion designer.

The reason why I like Coco Chanel is because my dream is to become a fashion designer. I like to draw pictures and design my dolls. Also, I like to read fashion magazines. Like Coco Chanel, I don't give up easily, and we both love to design things.

Like I said before, everyone has their own role models. If you want to become like your role models, you shouldn't give up and keep trying. Remember your dream doesn't betray you if you work hard.





# Grade 6 Creative Writing

## Three Smart Choices

6-Wisdom Jung, Yae-Joo (Ellie)



People always make choices in their lives. Good or smart choices keep us healthy and safe, so we can have a happy life. I make 3 smart choices every day. First, I drink water every day in the morning. It is a good choice because it washes away the stomach acid secreted the night before. Second, I read a book every day. It is a good choice because books give us knowledge. Third, I take the subway when I come home from school. It is a good choice because I can save more pocket money and it also helps me exercise.



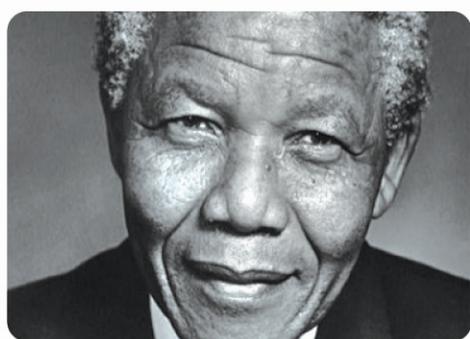
## Nelson Mandela

6-Gentleness Gwak, Do-Yoon (Dolly)



Do you think that white people and black people are different? They are both people, but many people think that black people are not as clever as white people. So, there was a time when white people treated black people like animals. I also used to think that black people were dirtier and not as smart as white people. I thought that black people could not reach high positions like becoming the president of a country or of a big business. However, that belief cracked when I learned about Nelson Mandela, the first president of the Republic of South Africa.

Nelson Mandela is a very well-known anti-apartheid. In fact, Nelson Mandela won a Nobel Peace Prize for that. He was born in Cape Town, South Africa in 1918. He could not understand why white people thought that they were way better than black people. He decided to break this belief, so he started to work as an activist. Mandela told black people to ignore the rules that show apartheid between blacks and whites, and as soon as he said that, he was sent to jail for that for many years. However,



living years and years in prison allowed him to think deeper and wider about the apartheid. After he was free to go, he made the apartheid vanish as the president of South Africa.

Nelson Mandela was

elected as the first president of an independent South Africa. Africans voted for the first time, and almost all of them voted for Nelson Mandela. Even though Nelson Mandela spent time in jail for many years, he was recognized as a brilliant anti-apartheid. So, after learning about Nelson Mandela, my belief changed from thinking that black and white people are different to considering black people as an equal to white people. I hope that many more people change their belief like I did.

## Cookie from Heaven

6-Gentleness Im, Soo-Min (Brita)



I would like to introduce a delicious cookie called Oreo. It is a cookie made by Nabisco, a company which makes good snacks. It has a scent of chocolate, cacao, and vanilla, which mixed together creates a very sweet scent. Its smell makes it very hard for anyone to resist the temptation of wanting to eat one right away. When we examine an Oreo, it looks like a sandwich cookie which has two cookie parts and cream in the middle. The cookies are dark and round with patterns and writings on them. Also, the cookies are bumpy and rocky. However, the cream is white and is very soft, cold, and light. When we eat it, it is crunchy and creamy, and the combination of its flavors of chocolate and vanilla create the perfect balance. I think this is how a cookie from heaven would taste like. It is absolutely irresistible!



## Nature Is Important

6-Love Kim, Seo-Hyeon (Angela)



Why is nature important to us? We are living surrounded by nature, but we don't know why nature is important. So, we destroy our nature unmercifully. But now, we have to know the reasons to why nature is important to us and stop destroying it, because we and nature are living together.

First of all, we are alive because of trees. Trees give us fresh oxygen to breathe and absorb carbon dioxide. We can't live without oxygen or if there is too much carbon dioxide. So, trees save us from death!

Second, apart from oxygen, we get and use many other things from nature. We make chairs, tables, and pencils with trees. Also, a medicine named aspirin is made

# Grade 6 Creative Writing



of willow. Cocoons and cotton give us clothes, and we eat corn and other vegetables and fruit that grow in nature. There are thousands of things that we get and daily use from nature.

Last, nature shields us from natural disasters. For example, if there is a landslide, trees and other strong plants help block or decrease the damage. Other many parts of nature can obstruct natural disasters. But if nature is destroyed, the natural disasters could hit us straight, causing greater damages.

In conclusion, nature is important to us. Trees make oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide, we use many other resources in nature that help us live more comfortable lives, and it also mitigates the damages of natural disasters. Therefore, we need nature in our lives because without it, we couldn't possibly survive.

## Smart Choices

6-Love Im, Jae-Sang (Chris)



I made 3 smart choices to make my life better. First, I decided to wear a helmet when I ride my skateboard. I didn't wear a helmet before, but my parents told me that it was not a good idea for my safety. Second, I decided to drink a glass of carrot juice every day. I don't usually like to eat vegetables, so my mother made me several kinds of vegetable juice. I like carrot juice the most. It contains a lot of vitamin A and carotene, so I'm sure that drinking carrot juice will make me healthy. Third, I decided to do all of my homework. Doing my homework every day will help me build a good habit for studying. If I have effective studying habits, I can get more options in the future. So, I'll keep these three promises.



## Changing My Opinion

6-Truth Lee, Hyun-Ji (Helena)



Until nine, I had a prejudiced opinion about black people and Indians. I was scared of them, and thought they were filthy and stupid. I applied sun cream on my face all the time whenever I went outside so that I

would not look like a black person! However, after I read an inspiring piece of writing, I figured out that I was wrong.

I loved reading books when I was nine. I especially enjoyed reading English novels. When I became a third grader, we had to read a novel called *The Indian in the Cupboard* for school as my English class homework. That novel contained stereotypes of Indians and cowboys. After that, I started to hate black people and Indians even more. I didn't know it was a stereotype, or a prejudice.

One day, I read a piece of writing in Korean class at school. It was about black people and people having prejudice against black people, considering them to be dirty or lower than us. It stated that this was an absolutely wrong and incorrect thought. Black people are the same as us, human beings, and therefore, we must throw away any prejudiced opinions about them and never discriminate them. The writing also included Jesus's story. I am a Christian, so I soon became interested in that piece of writing. "Black people are the same human beings as we all are. They must have human rights as well as their freedom!" I realized that I had nothing to say against this and how wrong I was to have thought of black people any differently.

Now that I have realized that I was wrong, I want to participate in a contest relating to this issue, which hopefully will allow me to open the eyes of others like me and finally let them see the truth: that we are all equal humans no matter what our skin color might be.



## Bee Adaptations

6-Truth Im, Jae-Ho (Jay)



I think bees are very interesting animals because they use adaptation to survive. First, honey bees have yellow stripes and a black body. Their colors help them blend in with the colors of flowers. They can be protected from predators this way. Another important honey bee adaptation is its stinger. To protect a hive, bees use stingers and save their queen and colony. They also have behavioral adaptations. For example, the honey bee dance is a behavioral adaptation that attracts a honey bee to its mate. Many animals try to survive in various environments and that makes them interesting.





# 2014 Olympiad

## Public Speaking

Public Speaking is the 2nd event in the English Olympiad and was held on September 17th this year. It is an event opened to Gyeseong students from 3rd grade to 6th grade. The contest is held by grades, which means the participants only compete against someone of their own grade. Public Speaking is an event that offers Gyeseong students the opportunity to develop strong speech skills and practice speaking in front of people, being able to express their thoughts freely and comfortably on a certain topic.

## Golden Bell

Golden Bell is the 3rd event in the English Olympiad and was held on November 5th. It invites all Gyeseong students from 3rd grade to 6th grade to participate in this competition. Much like the other two English Olympiad events, this one is also held separately by grades. Golden Bell is a contest that mixes trivia questions with general knowledge questions related to topics or subjects, such as current events, art, music, science, math, language skills and many more. During this event, the students are not only able to test themselves on how much general knowledge they have about the world, but also they get to learn fun and interesting facts as well.



3-Wisdom  
Jung, Yoon-Seon (Chloe)



4-Gentleness  
Song, Jung-Gyoon (Luke)



3-Wisdom  
Jung, Seung-Woo (Paul)



4-Wisdom  
Park, Su-Yeon (Claire)



5-Truth  
Kim, Gwang-Hyun (Hyun)



6-Truth  
Ji, Hyeon-Woo (Ethen)



5-Wisdom  
Jo, Joon-Young (Andy)



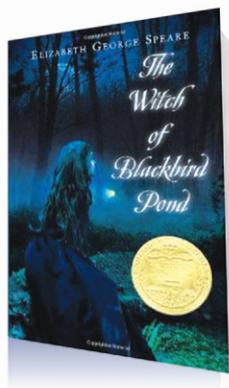
6-Gentleness  
Jung, Min-Jae (MJ)

# 2014 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Afterschool Presentations

This event is held each year during the 2nd semester and invites all 1st graders to participate and freely express themselves. It also helps the students gain confidence when speaking in front of an audience and strengthens their English speaking skills. This year it was held on November 26th and 34 students participated. Each student chose a cultural topic and performed their presentations.



# 2014 Book Report Winners



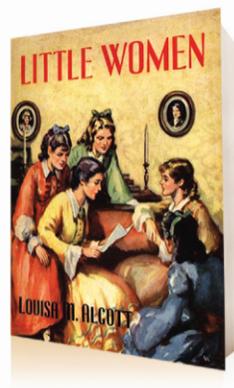
## The Witch of Blackbird Pond

4-Wisdom  
Park, Su-Yeon (Claire)



▶▶ An excerpt from Claire's book report

"[...] *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* has two deep morals: do not judge people unfairly and be brave. For example, if someone looks bad, people tend to think that their personalities will be bad too. The book shows us that we should not judge others unfairly. The second moral is to be brave. For example, if you see someone being treated poorly or unfairly, it takes courage to stand up for him or her. Bravery is an important value. After reading *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, it has become, without doubt, one of my favorite books because it vividly tells the story of an independent girl, it is educational about history, and it has deep moral lessons that are worthy of keeping in mind."



## Little Women

5-Wisdom  
Rhee, Jae-Min (Sophie)



▶▶ An excerpt from Sophie's book report

"[...] After reading this book, I was able to value and appreciate my parents' love and care. As I read this book, I imagined that if my family had four daughters, it would be amazing, our house always filled with laughter. In this book, I think I can relate the most to Jo. I actually think I could become close friends with the other girls too, with their bright minds filled with curiosity. Also, after reading this book and as I grow up, I am starting to realize that the fights I occasionally have with my sister do not help us in any way but just makes us feel bad and sad. So, I'll try to think of what are the most important things in this world that I need to love and care for the most."

# 2014 Winter School



Gyeseong Elementary School provides a two-week winter school program every year mainly to Gyeseong first and second graders. It consists of five periods each day, running from 9:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. on weekdays. This program allows teachers to interact with students in a variety of ways, supplementing fun and active English language learning with a multitude of different hands-on activities.

This year, during the first three periods of the day, the students studied with an interactive ESL textbook that allowed them to put integrated skills into practice. Later in the afternoon, during 4th period, students practiced singing and performing a song, culminating with a Winter School concert on the last day, which everyone enjoyed being part of. After singing, the students also enjoyed story time, listening to exciting tales from their teachers and classmates. For the final 5th period of the day, the students were able to work with all the teachers, each day rotating to a different classroom for a special activity. This particular year, the students enjoyed the arcade game Dance Dance Revolution (DDR) with Ms. Hannah, playing dominoes with Ms. Yulia, making a new year's resolution with Mr. Smith, being crafty with beads with Mr. Hooker, using bottles to play music with Mrs. Ryu, creating their own bookmark with Mr. Barg, making marshmallow pops with Ms. Forrester, customizing and decorating their very own 2015 desk calendar with Ms. Bak, and jumping rope with Mr. Nethercutt. It was a great opportunity for the teachers and students to get to know each other, and everyone most definitely had great fun!



# Teacher's Farewell

## Good-Bye, Ms. Forrester!



**Marika Forrester**

Good-bye everyone!

It has truly been a pleasure to work as part of the English Department for the last three years. Each day, I felt privileged to come to work and teach such incredible students. Watching you all grow personally and improve your English skills has been a rewarding experience. I am going to miss working with such a great team of teachers and teaching you English. I have many wonderful memories from Gyeseong that I will never forget. You all have a special place in my heart. Keep studying hard and all the best for the future!



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates!



Dear Graduates of 2014,

We truly congratulate you for successfully completing your primary education, and we most sincerely wish all of you the best of luck in your near, bright future! Here are some quotes that will hopefully inspire and motivate you to get through any hardships you might encounter throughout the next chapters of your life:

*"The biggest adventure you can take is to live the life of your dreams."  
- Oprah Winfrey*

*"If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; If you can dream it, you can become it."  
- William Arthur Ward*

