

CHAN Hayley Meredith

St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School

Topic

One Voice In The Dark

21st December, 2017

Dear Madeline,

I simply had to write to you in order to tell you about a spellbinding book I have recently read, called "I Am Malala". "When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful" is a particularly memorable quotation from the book. This is the childhood story of a girl who advocates the education rights of women. Malala was shot by the Pakistan Taliban as a result of her activism but remarkably survived. Throughout the battle for equality, she never gave up. Despite all the challenges, she continued to speak her mind and pursue her dreams.

Malala could never have become her courageous and passionate self if her father had not been there to support and to encourage her. Malala's father,

I admire her courage to speak out to pursue equality. The attempted murder did not frighten her and even while she was still recovering, she continued to speak out for female education Finally, after putting in so much effort, she received donations to help rebuild sixty-five schools that the Taliban had burnt down. Her fierce determination is extraordinary and admirable. Her compelling and profound passion made her a role model and an inspiration for many young girls.

Ziauddin, respected women and treated them as equals. He surrounded her with books and taught her to speak her mind, to study and to learn. He encouraged her along every step of the way. This is the kind of love and care that our world is longing for.

Sometimes, we take our freedom of speech and freedom to choose our own religion for granted. We are fortunate to live in a society where girls are not treated differently. No one should be afraid to chase their dreams and destinies, no one should be suppressed from expressing their opinion and no one should be deprived from the chance of education simply because of being a girl.

This book is inspirational, uplifting and a must-read for young people to understand its essence: "One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world."

> Yours, Hayley

Book Read

Title:I am Malala: the girl who stood up for education and was shot by the TalibanAuthor:Malala Yousafzai; with Christina LambPublished by:New York: Little, Brown, 2013.

Comments

• A thought provoking letter illustrating the power of courage.

 The student has an excellent sense of the language for his/her age, beautiful sentences grabbed the readers' attention. Established a strong beginning, middle and end. The student used sophisticated words, but it came across as very natural.

CHIU Wei Yin Julie St. Paul's Co-educational College

Primary School

Торіс

The World That Saved My Life

Dear Miss Chan,

How are you? It has been a while since I last saw you. I hope you are doing well. I am writing this letter because I would like to introduce my favourite book to you. It is called "The War That Saved My Life" by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

CHOY Ching Hei Ho Lap Primary School (sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen)

The Best Book I Have Read

21st December, 2017

Dear Alex,

Topic

How are you? I read a book called "Voyage of the Vikings" recently. It is really the best book I have ever read. Let me introduce it to you!

The book is about a boy, called Jack, and his sister, Annie. They accidentally find a treehouse that is filled with books. Basically, the tree house is like a time machine and it can take anyone to the places in the books and it belongs to a magical librarian. Since then, they start their missions on saving stories from ancient libraries.

The story is about a British girl called Ada whose mother hated her because she was born with clubfoot. Her mother would lock her in the cabinet and would not let her leave her room. Ada did not feel loved at all from her mother and she had always wanted to run from her home. One day, Ada learned from the news that the war was coming and she knew that she would have a chance to escape because her mother was sending Ada's brother, Jamie to another city. Ada sneaked out of her house successfully and was adopted by a woman called Susan Smith. Ada felt very fortunate to have a much better life living with Susan.

After reading this book, I think that life does not come easy for everyone and we should never take things for granted. In the story, Ada struggled with her clubfoot every day and her mother was incredibly cruel to her. I think that people should be thankful for being able to see the colours of the world, to feel the touch of a breeze and to hear the song of the nature. I feel very grateful for my family because they treat me wholeheartedly and I would never want to escape from my home like what Ada did.

In addition, life can be threatening during wartime because innocent people die every day. I also feel immensely thankful that I do not live in such time of despair. I can go to school and go out with my friends without having to worry about bomb attacks.

Please tell me what you think about this story and I should probably go to bed now. I hope that you'll write back! Thank you.

Yours sincerely, Julie Chiu

Book Read

Title:The War That Saved My LifeAuthor:Kimberly Brubaker BradleyPublished by:New York: Puffin Books, 2016.

Comments

• A well-written letter with an insightful reflection on learning to be thankful.

For their third mission, the magic takes them to the 'Dark Ages'. They accidentally find out a monastery shrouded in mist. They meet some monks in the monastery after they come across it. Then, Brother Patrick takes them to a peaceful hut full of books. There are some monks writing books. Annie and Jack start to realize that the monks are helping keep the Western civilization alive. They are really the streak of light in the Dark Ages! Their mission does not end until they bring the book which Brother Michael has written back to Morgan.

As they are ready to set off for the treehouse, the Vikings are coming! They quickly go down to the shore. To escape from the Vikings' attack, they face a lot of ordeals. Luckily, they are finally saved. Eventually, they can return to their homeland and accomplish their task.

Isn't it a brilliant and exciting book? I felt like I would never run out of steam. The ending was a load off my mind. My favourite character was Annie because of her boldness. she was not afraid of any dangers or ordeals. If I were Jack and Annie, I would spend more time on staying there to experience the lives of an isolated world.

I have learnt a lot from this book and it really widens my vision! I learnt that we have to be fortitudinous when facing difficulties. Dole Carnegie has once said, 'Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all!'

Perseverance is the key to success. I would highly recommend this book to you because it's worth reading!

How about you? Have you ever read a book which was really unforgettable? I am looking forward to your reply!

Yours truly, Hayden

Book ReadTitle:Voyage of the VikingsAuthor:Mary Pope Osborne ; illustrated by Philippe MassonPublished by:London: Red Fox, 2009.

Comments

• An interesting account of the story.

• The student exhibited an effective writing style and clearly engaged the readers. The ideas were simplistic and insightful.

作品排名不分先後,以獲獎者姓名排序。 Works arranged in the order of the winner's names.

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CHOY Wing Yee Shatin Government Primary School

Fun Of Children's Books Topic

18 November, 2017

Dear Mandy,

How are you? Did anything interesting happen?

I have read a book recently and cannot wait to share it with you. It is "I'm not a Supermouse!", book 43 of Geronimo Stilton series.

Geronimo, the main character, is a great businessman but a timid mouse. His friend, Bruce Hyena, decides to toughen him up and forces him to undergo a survival course. Geronimo has to overcome challenges, such as the heat of the Sahara, the chill of the North Pole, the terror of the jungle and the darkness of the coves. It is extremely adventurous! Can Geronimo complete the course and become a supermouse after all? I think you would like to find out the answer by yourself, right? However, I can tell you super-sporty Bruce is my favorite character in the story. He is invincible.

The book is around 100 pages long. The story is fast-paced with colourful illustrations on almost every page of the book. Useful vocabularies are highlighted too. Though many words are new to me, I can still understand the story with the help of pictures. I have learned a few words. They can be used in our English writing. Do you know the meaning of "flabbergasted"? It means extremely surprised. I think readers of our age would like this book.

The most important thing I have learned from the book is to face daily problems or extreme situations with the right attitude keep calm and never give up. It is really an interesting and inspirational story.

Are you interesting in reading the book? Please let me know. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

> Best wishes, Dora

Book Read I'm not a Supermouse! Title: Geronimo Stilton Author: Published by: New York: Scholastic Inc., 2010.

Comments

• A good introduction of the book.

• Vocabulary wide and precise. It had fluent expression, with logical sequencing. Ideas were insightful, thought-provoking. A quality short story.

LAM Cheuk Long Ian La Salle Primary School

Topic

My First Book About Spies

Dear Auntie Anna,

How are you lately? I hope you are enjoying your stay in New York. Do you have time to go sightseeing after work?

I went to the Hong Kong library last week and borrowed a junior novel being introduced by my English Literature teacher. It is called "Scorpia", the fifth book of the Alex Rider series by Anthony Horowitz.

Alex Rider, at the age of fourteen, is being used by MI6 as a spy. In this story, Alex travels to Venice for a school trip in order to investigate Scorpia, a criminal organization that carries out sinister acts for money and its relationship with the death of his father. Alex tries hard and able to meet Mrs. Rothman, a leading member of Scorpia and a good friend of his father. She tells him the story of his father and Alex is astounded realizing his father did work for Scorpia as an assassin. More surprisingly, Mrs. Rothman invites him to work for Scorpia. Later, the head of MI6, Alan Blunt, gets to know Scorpia has a plan to kill thousands of children in England. The teen spy is sent back to Scorpia as a double agent to prevent the brutal plan.

Alex is an amazing character I can see his outstanding qualities being a teenager as well as a spy. He is clever, courageous and caring. Moreover, he has strong determination to accomplish his mission. I am impressed by his willingness to do whatever he knows (or does not know) to find out who his father was, what he did and how he died. Throughout the book, Alex has to opt for serving MI6 or Scorpia and his decision changes constantly. Yet, it makes me aware that loyalty is important for being a good spy as well as a friend.

I get glued to the book because it is packed with twists and turns. As I could not put it down, I kept telling mum 'five more minutes before I go to sleep' and she was mad. I would recommend this book to people who likes action, suspense and adventure.

LAM CHUNG Edith S.K.H. St. James' Primary School

Topic

The Wise Pig

Dear Mandy,

How are you? Do you have a favourite book in English? Let me share with you a great book I read recently called "The Sheep-Pig".

It is a funny and touching story about a little pig named Babe. Babe lives on Hogget's farm. Mr. Hogget is not a pig-farmer but a sheep-farmer. He wins a little pig at a party. His wife, Mrs. Hogget is happy and wants to fatten the pig and have it on the dinner table at Christmas. Luckily, Babe, who is a very clever pig, becomes a friend with Hogget's sheep dog, named Fly. Fly is teaching Babe how to look after the sheep and Babe becomes a successful sheep-pig.

Babe is my favourite character in this story. I like him because he is polite, kind and brave. He sees two bad dogs trying to kill the sheep, then he fearlessly fights with them. Babe is always very polite and says "Hello, are you happy?" to the sheep.

The politeness and kindness of Babe also makes him build up a good relationship with the sheep. Babe treats everyone with respect, even when Fly always tells him that sheep are stupid and don't deserve his good manners. I would like to learn from Babe.

There are lots of funny situations throughout the story like when the pig eats smaller meals and does exercise to slim down. The last chapter 'The Best in the world' is the most attractive part of the story. It is about Babe going for the trail, it performs perfectly without any commands from Farmer Hogget. At the end, Babe and Farmer Hogget score full marks in the trail. Farmer Hogget looks down at his sheep-pig and says, 'Well done, Pig! You're the best.' I am very happy with this story ending too.

From the beginning, Babe knows he will never be a sheep-pig, but perhaps if he tries really hard, he might become a sheep-pig! I am glad that Babe does the job successfully because of his diligence. This is what I learn from Babe – never accept your limitations. Babe reminds me that I can reach my goal – if only I put my mind to it and work hard.

Are you interested in this book? If you want to read this book, I will be very happy to lend it to you.

Hope to hear from you soon.

I am going to read another book from the series and will write to tell you more after my reading.

Wish you a Merry Christmas!

With love, lan

Book Read Title: Scorpia Author: Anthony Horowitz Published by: London: Walker Books Ltd., 2016.

ibrary)

Comments

· Paragraphs had unity, were linked, and showed evidence of planning. The piece showed sophisticated range with effective words. Ideas were insightful, thought-provoking.

Book Read

Title: The Sheep-pig **Dick King-smith** Author: Published by: London: Penguin, 1997.



• The essay is clear and well structured.

作品排名不分先後,以獲獎者姓名排序。 Works arranged in the order of the winner's names.

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Fun Of Children's Books

Dear Harold,

How are you? Is it cold in England? Last week, I read a meaningful book called "Helen Keller: Courage in the Dark". The author is Johanna Hurwitz. Let me tell you the story and share my views with you.

The story is about a little girl called Helen Keller who became blind and deaf after a severe fever. She tried very hard but she could not learn how to write. Her world was dark and silent until she met a wonderful teacher whose name was Annie. She taught Helen how to write and talk. Finally and amazingly, she became a writer.

Helen's life was filled with silence and darkness. But she had the courage and determination to light her days. Needless to say, her story has inspired many people and Helen is a good learning model for everyone.

On the other hand, I like this book because it tells me a good teacher can change one's life. Imagine if Helen did not meet the good teacher, Annie, she might not be able to overcome the study problems in her life. Imagine if Annie did not have good patience to observe Helen's special needs, Helen might not learn well. Imagine if Annie did not think more how to help Helen in a special way, Helen might not get the chance to build confidence and courage in the DARK. See, a good teacher can change darkness to brightness!

As I know you wish to be a teacher when you grow up and so do I, let us try our best to observe more, listen more and think more. I think we need to develop such skills because a teacher needs to face students who have different abilities, personalities and cultures.

Wish you a meaningful study trip. See you soon!

Love from, Angie

Book Read

Title: Helen Keller: courage in the dark Johanna Hurwitz; illustrated by Neverne Covington Author: Published by: New York: Random House, 1997.

Comments

SZE Wing Lam Olivia **St. Stephen's Girls' Primary School**

Wonder Topic

20th November 2017

Dear Iris,

I would like to introduce a book to you. It is called Wonder, by R. J. Palacio. It talks about a boy who is deformed. His eyes are on his cheeks, he has cauliflower shaped ears, and has to insert a hipbone into his face to ensure he has a chin. His name is August. He was always homeschooled by his mother and never went to school, until...

This book began with August starting middle school at Beecher Prep School. He was very nervous when he started. He made some friends like a boy named Jack, a girl named Charlotte and another girl named Summer. He kept his head down in the corridors at first but eventually started to meld with the students.

But August was bullied at school because of his looks. A boy named Julian and his two sidekicks Miles and Henry teased August and nicknamed him 'The Zombie Boy'. August did not like middle school much, but he enjoyed studying different subjects, especially science.

Though August managed to get through most of the year in school without any accidents, at the end of the second term when he went to a nature reserve camp with fellow students, some seventh years from another school saw August on his way back from the toilet and they teased and nicknamed him 'Gollum' and 'orc' which were not nice things to say at all. One boy even took August's hearing aids and broke them. A few classmates of August, Amos, Henry and Miles, came to August's aid. August's elbow was bleeding, and it hurt, but he was glad that he made some new friends through this.

• The letter is well-structured.

The school year ended with the awards presentation, in which August got the most important medal in the school because he excelled in academics and showed courage. He also went to lunch to celebrate with his friends Summer and Jack, his sister and her boyfriend, the children's parents and Jack's little brother Jamie. They had a great time.

I like this book because it looks from different people's angles about things, and it's interesting. It depicts the life of a boy that does not look normal and tells us that it doesn't matter how you look on the outside, it is just the inside that matters. It also shows us the value of friendship.

Olivia

Book Read Title: Wonder R. J. Palacio Author: Published by: New York: Random House, 2012.

圖書館 Library



• Demonstrated an orderly flow of ideas. The style is energetic and precise, the sentence structure is varied and the words are carefully chosen.

作品排名不分先後,以獲獎者姓名排序。 Works arranged in the order of the winner's names.

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