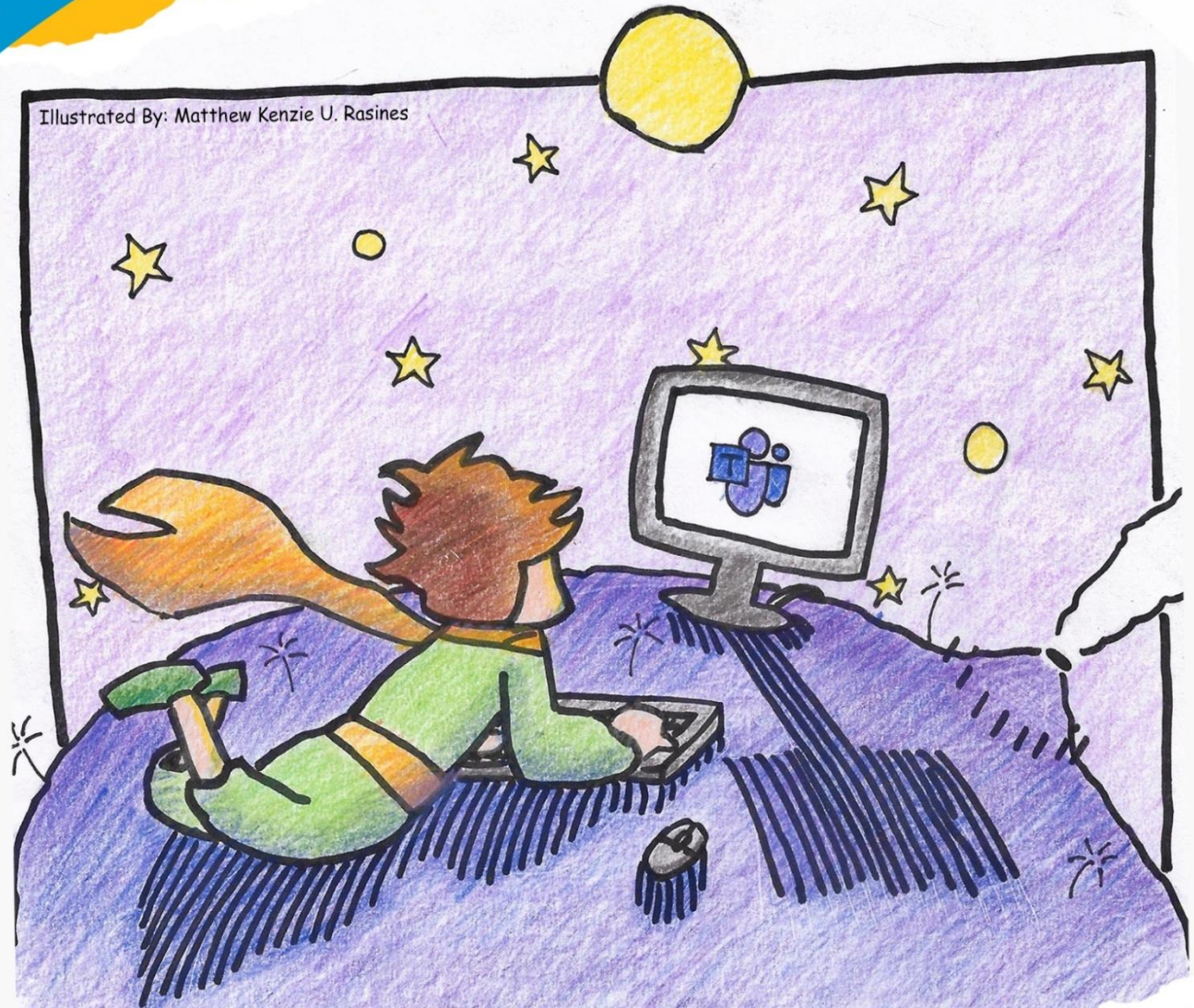


# Phos Aletheia Jr.

The official publication of Philippine Christian Gospel School

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1 | S.Y. 2020 - 2021

Illustrated By: Matthew Kenzie U. Rasines

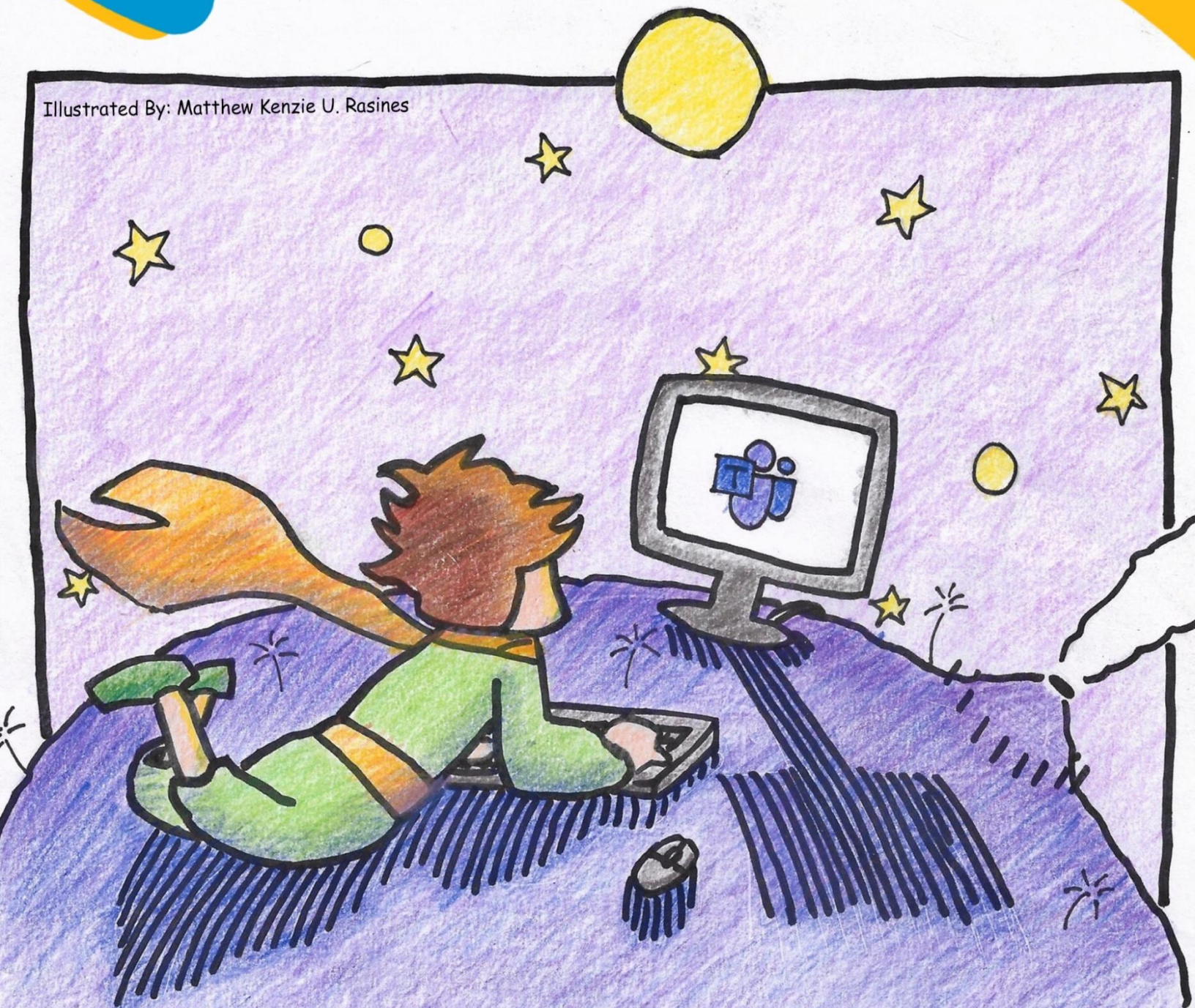


## ABOUNDING IN HOPE

Humility and Obedience



Illustrated By: Matthew Kenzie U. Rasines





# ABOUT THE COVER

**T**his year the Elementary and Pre-school departments take a step towards Campus Journalism by producing the Phos Aletheia Jr. Naturally, at the age of 3, toddlers start to see themselves as part of the community. As they grow older, they develop their social skills and create friendships among their peers. Thankfully these young, inquisitive minds need not grow and learn apart from one another. As the cover projects, technology is truly one of God's blessings that connects us. Despite the physical limitations caused by the Pandemic, connectivity is still possible because of technology.

The cover is inspired by the classic tale, The Little Prince, which tells of a story about a prince who lived alone on his planet until he met a pilot in the Sahara Desert. The

prince had been accustomed to living on his own, but eventually learned to share his adventures with the pilot. Then the famous quotation came to life, *"What is essential is invisible to the eye."* In the same way, this Pandemic serves as a reminder and challenge to both children and adults. A challenge because it poses threats to our lives physically, emotionally, financially, and spiritually. This Pandemic also serves as a reminder that there are things far more valuable than what the eyes can see like our relationships with family, friends, peers, and most especially with God. *Fear and anxiety may be real in the eyes of the children and adults, but so is "Hope."* Hope is what everyone tries to find in these challenging times. What the story of the Little Prince fails to give is the Sovereign Ruler of life - God.





# HOPE BRINGERS

By: Dr. Wanda Po Liam Giok

**W**e just celebrated Christmas 2020 not too long ago. Who is your favorite character in the Christmas story recorded in the Bible? I have many favorite characters in the first Christmas I love the shepherds for their simple faith and how they ran with exuberant joy to look for the baby when they learned about the birth of the Savior. I love the magi who could not be deterred from the challenge of distance, risks, and hardships in the journey, for pursuing an unknown destiny except the leading from a star that is not always visible. I love Joseph for his kind heart and unwavering devotion to save Mary's reputation. I love Mary for her total and unquestioning submission to God's plan. The characters in the Christmas story all have some qualities that are admirable and good for us to emulate.

There is one character that is a favorite among many girls whenever the Christmas story is going to be reenacted in a pageant. Aside from playing the role of Mary, many girls would want to play the role of an angel because they want to wear an angel's costume with the wings. Angels in the Bible are God's messengers - whether as messengers of blessings or of burden, of deliverance or of doom. In the Christmas story, the angel and the host of angels were joy and hope bringers. *"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord"* (Luke 2:10-11). Oh! what joyful news this angel announced to the shepherds. But it was also a message of hope because the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior, was the fulfillment of God's promise and prophecy given by the prophets thousands of years ago. Jesus' birth was the hope of the nations; Jesus was the light in the darkness. His birth signaled the coming of God's kingdom; one of whom God's people had been waiting expectantly for the redemption of Jerusalem as expressed by Anna the prophetess (Luke 2:38). Jesus is the hope that all Israel was looking and waiting to come.

We all want to be bringers of good news, not bad news, news that give hope not despair. Just as the angel in the Christmas story brought joyful and hopeful news, in this article, let me share two stories, one from the Old Testament, and another from the New Testament, to highlight two hope-bringers.

A certain commander of the army of the king of Syria contracted leprosy, considered fatal and incurable in the ancient world. His name is Naaman (you can read his story in 2 Kings 5). Although highly favored by his master, the king of Syria, and a mighty warrior, there was nothing Naaman could do about his leprosy. Resigned to his fate, he became downcast because of his illness. But a young servant girl who was taken captive from Israel, went to her mistress (wife of Naaman)

with these words - *"Would that my lord were with the prophet (Elisha) who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy"* (2 Kings 5:3). The servant girl's words became a flicker of hope, a light at the end of the tunnel, a rainbow in the sky. Naaman became "alive" and was determined to seek this prophet in Samaria.

You may be a grade one or grade 6 student, but you can be a hope-bringer like this servant girl in our story. She told her mistress what she knew about the prophet. She must have heard about the miracles that the prophet had performed. Amazing, how Elisha helped a widow and her son filled up all the vessels she managed to gather, with oil that she sold to pay her debts and still has much left to sustain her and her son for the rest of the drought. The servant girl must have heard how Elisha raised the widow's son from the dead. She believed that the prophet was able to do miracles because of his God. She was not afraid to tell her mistress of her convictions. You can always share what you know about God to people who needs God. And who does not need God? All of us do! You can share to friends and family how God is our hope for all our days and for our future. Hope-bringers are bold and courageous to share with others their stories and experiences with God.

Hope-bringers are people who think of others; they put others first before their own interests. Hope-bringers love to help other people achieve their potentials and reach their dreams. One such hope-bringer is recorded in Mark 2:1-12. In fact, it is not one hope-bringer but four hope-bringers. Four friends cared enough to go the extra mile to help their paralytic friend receive healing from Jesus. Four friends heard that Jesus was inside a house preaching. One said, *"Jesus is here. This is our friend's chance to get healed."* *"Yes, let's go get our friend,"* said another. *"Will he come with us?"* *"Of course, he will if we insist and if we assure him that we will carry him to Jesus,"* said another. And so, the four friends got their paralytic friend. Approaching the house where Jesus was preaching, they could not pass through because a big crowd was blocking the entrance to the house. Hope-bringers are not easily discouraged. With eyes fixed on their goal they devised something. Nothing could stop them - course of action in place. They went to the roof, removed it, and made an opening big enough to let down their friend's bed to where Jesus was standing. Ingenuity! Touched by the faith of the four friends, Jesus performed the healing, on the soul first then the body. The hope-bringers in spreading hope to their friend, were blessed themselves.

Whatever the year 2021 may be, let us not lose hope in what our God can and will do. Let us also become hope-bringers to a world that needs hope, not only for today or tomorrow, but for all times. Our hope is Christ and in Him we have a hope that is eternally secure.



# A GLIMPSE OF HOPE

By: Jessica Gianne Lim



**H**ow could a strange virus rapidly affect our day-to-day life, impede businesses, and disrupt world trade and movements?

Last December 2019, a deadly virus originated from Wuhan, China spread worldwide, hence becoming a pandemic. It was transmitted to the Philippines sometime in February to March 2020. Schools were compelled to end early due to the Coronavirus scare. Also, our country was in lockdown for two months in the hope to contain the virus. People were frightened, and our economy slumped. Since business establishments were closed, majority of the people were jobless.

Right now, people from all parts of the world embrace a new normal. Everyone is required to wear face mask and observe physical distancing to protect ourselves from the virus. We should also practice the new normal to go on with our work and activity.

One thing that has given me a glimpse of hope of the COVID-19 situation in the Philippines is that after several months of ECQ and home quarantine, the number of reported cases have been decreasing. Now, the COVID-19 cases are less fatal compared to the first outbreak. Moreover,

establishments are slowly resuming operation. People are back to work and now, our economy is getting better. Furthermore, vaccines are rolled out. With this big news, we can be protected after being vaccinated.

Our fight against this invisible and deadly enemy is still going on and no one knows the end of this battle. Will things return to the way they were before the pandemic took its course? As a little child, I am longing for that day where I could play with my friends and go to various places with my family. For now,

I will keep this  
*Glimpse of*  
**HOPE**  
*rising within me.*



# TEACHERS' SECTION PRESCHOOL

– SCHOOL YEAR SELFIE –

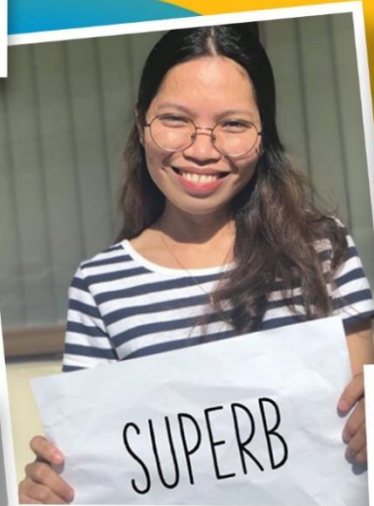
Here are the responses of the Preschool and Elementary teachers when they were asked to describe this school year.





# TEACHERS' SECTION ELEMENTARY

- SCHOOL YEAR SELFIE -







# MY REAL-LIFE SUPERHEROES

My real-life superhero is **MY MOM**.

She is my superhero because she always takes care of me. Ever since I was young, she would have to manage 2 things: taking care of me and my siblings and her work. She loves us a lot, and she disciplines us so that when we grow up, we will become good, kind-hearted, and responsible individuals. Whenever we get sick, she would take care of us, she would even stay up the whole night just to make sure that we get well soon. And, she cooks for our family and does other household chores. She is my superhero in many ways, and I thank God for giving me such a wonderful mom, a mom who loves me unconditionally.

By: Jessica Gianne Lim

My real-life superhero is **MY SISTER**

because she tells me everything that happens in school and helps me not to be so bored. She is a superhero because she does little things with me like she cooks for me and helps me understand the questions. She also walks the puppies with me and swims with me. She does all these things and many more with me.

By: Charmaine Margaret Ramos

My real-life superheroes are **MY PARENTS**, my mom's name is Rhena Marie Pastor and my dad's name is Brian Pastor. My parents are government employees. I admire them because of their sacrifices and dedication. Public service is their passion, while serving the people they also do their responsibility to us. My mother wakes up early to prepare our food and our uniforms so that we can be ready for school. My father is my protector, his primary duty is to keep us safe. Both of my parents are my inspiration to be the best I can be. I thank the Lord for giving me wonderful parents like them.

By: Samantha Pastor

My real-life superheroes are **MY PARENTS**.

My Papa Ronnie is my Superman. He feels strong because he can still carry me on his back even if I am already heavy. He buys food for me and my Grandma Andrea. He runs errands for my Aunt Lisa. He fetches my mama from work. On the other hand, my Mama Grace is my Wonder Woman. She wakes up at 4:00 a.m. to prepare our breakfast. She goes to work at 7:30 a.m. and back to the house at 6 p.m. After eating dinner, my mama is helping me study my lessons. Our family bonds together before going to sleep by watching YouTube. Isn't it amazing? My parents are my heroes! And I am Supergirl Ruby!

By: Ruby Grace Gonzaga



# MODERN HEROES



## "OUR MODERN DAY HEROES"

By: JC Enzo Lim

In this time of pandemic,  
There is no need to panic!  
Heroes are everywhere,  
Always ready to care.  
We call them our front liners,  
nurses and doctors  
Every day, our protectors!  
Forever let's be grateful,  
And always be thankful.  
Our heroes, we love you!  
We will take care of you, too!

## "CITY HERO"

By: Anna Beatrice Lao Uy

Everyone's a hero in their own way.  
They are people we admire today.  
In Cebu, Labella's our hero,  
Finding ways to making our city  
grow.

Though he is new as a mayor,  
He is not abusing his power.  
Fighting the invisible pandemic,  
Telling Cebuanos not to panic

Our Cebu City's getting better  
Because he's a hardworking leader.  
We can see him work day and night,  
Serving Cebu people left and right.

Therefore, we Cebuanos, should  
thank him!  
We should pray for him and his  
regime!  
May God bless our beloved city,  
So Cebu can have prosperity!

## "DOCTORS"

By: Jenson Ang

Dear doctor,  
Oh, so caring and kind.  
How you don't seem to mind  
When I visit you from time to time.

You have stopped my tummy ache  
Like it's just a piece of cake.  
You work day and night  
To treat us right.

My mommy and I would like to say,  
Thank you,  
But please,  
Take care of yourself, too.

## "HEROES IN WHITE"

By Anton Elumbaring

Heroes in white  
Fighting like a knight

Heroes in white  
Battling Covid's fight

Heroes in white  
Saving lives with all their might

Heroes in white,  
Soaring beyond the sky like  
a kite

Heroes in white  
Rest well for night

\*Dedicated to: Dr. Dennis Ramon Tudtud  
and Dr. Helen Tudtud



Heroes in White  
Heroes in White,  
Fighting like a knight.  
Heroes in White,  
Battling Covid's flight.  
Heroes in White,  
Saving lives with all their might.  
Heroes in White,  
Soaring beyond the sky like a kite.  
Heroes in White,  
Rest well for the rest of your nights.

by: Anton J. Elumbaring  
Dedicated to my chosen Cebu  
Heroes:  
Dr. Dennis Ramon Tudtud  
and  
Dr. Helen Tudtud





# Stories

## "THE MONKEY AND THE LION"

By: Matthew Jedrick Uy

Once upon a time, a monkey was searching for a golden banana. He found one, but he could not reach it.

Then, he saw a lion who was looking for food because he has not eaten anything, "Mr. Lion, can you please get that golden banana for me? I will give you one half of the banana." The lion knew that a golden banana would keep him from hunger for 10 days after eating it, so he got the banana and shared it.

Not long after, a snake slithered from a tree and poisoned the lion. The monkey called the ambulance and the police to help the lion. The cops arrested the snake, and the doctors were able to heal the lion. He was grateful to the monkey, "Thank you for helping me. As a sign of gratitude, you will be the chief commander of the army." The monkey was happy that he was part of the army but, most importantly, he saved his friend!

## "THE THREE FRIENDS"

By: Adrianna Sweet Yao

One snowy day, there was a bunny playing in the snow. Suddenly, she heard a monkey's voice, "Help, Help!" Then, the bunny went to the hole and saw a monkey freezing. The bunny said, "Do you need help?"

Suddenly, the bunny had an idea! "Here climb on my back," said the bunny. Then, the monkey climbed and pushed the bunny. Lastly, a panda saw it, "Hey! Monkey, we are all friends here, do not hurt her. Help her get up!" The monkey said

"Sorry, Panda!" Soon, they became friends with the panda's help. "Thank you, Panda," the bunny said.

## "DREAMS ARE FOR REAL"

By: Marianne Gayne Uy

One starry night in our calm, peaceful, and lovely home. I was hugging my beloved stuffed toy. Then, I was transported to school enjoying without hesitation and doubts from my classmates. The warm voices of other children seemed to be music to my ears; also, the fountain of knowledge and love in the person of the teachers; they have been like the carrying workers, and they have been like family, the freedom of grabbing my favorite Stilton books at the library and the countless times of running and playing at the school ground with friends after class meant happiness to me. I love these moments.

Suddenly, a young boy magically appeared. He looked like a wizard, yet saintly and humble. In a blink of an eye, he prepared all my favorite food on the table, gathering my family and friends. He brought us to places, stores, and dream vacations, and we savored all our meals with our preferred smoothies.

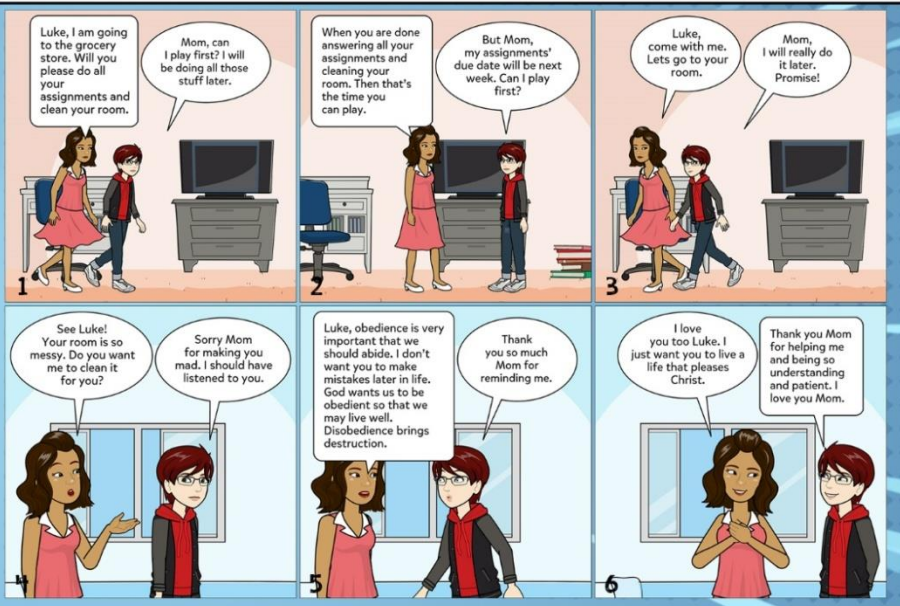
Surprisingly, I overheard a familiar voice. "Good Morning!" my mother gently woke me up. She said, "It's time to prepare for online class." Oh no, it was just a dream!

I came to realize that the boy in my dream might be Jesus who has full of power and knowledge. He even knew our sadness and happiness. He appeared just to give me and all of us HOPE. Dreams are for real! Just be patient! He is still repairing and preparing the world to be better and fit for children to live in it again.



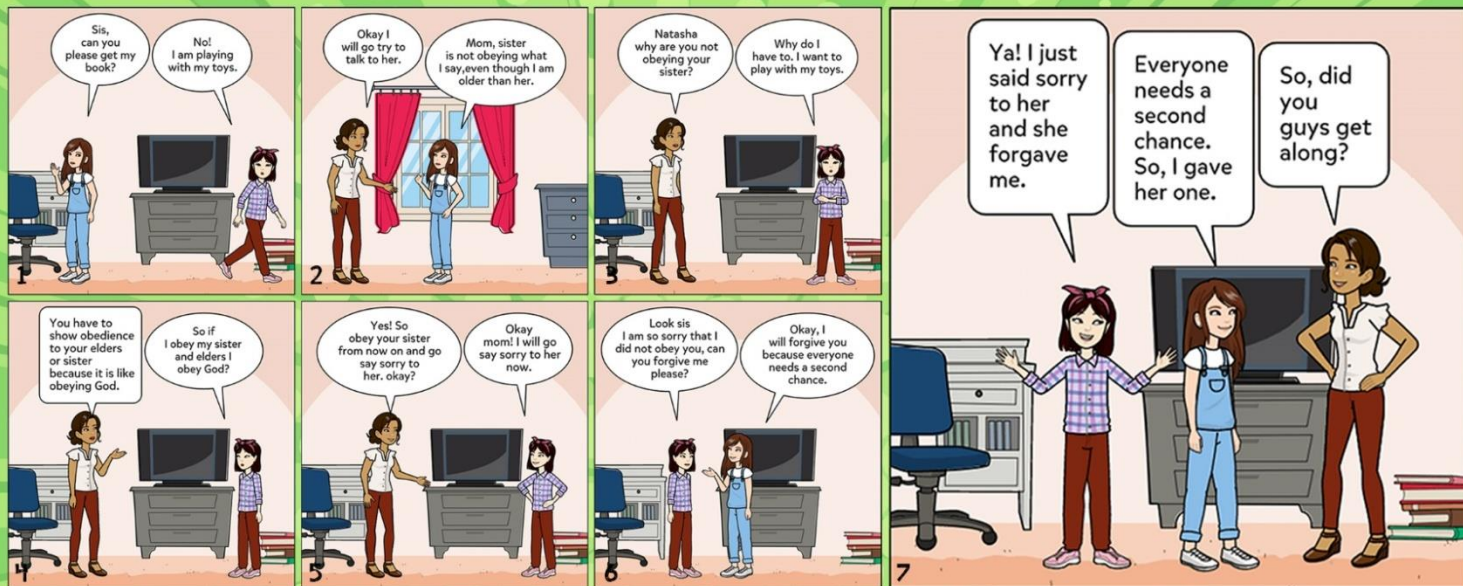
## OBEDIENCE

By: Luke David Yap



## OBEDIENCE

By: Natalie Ngo



## LOST IN THE WOODS

By: Nigel Jao





# Teacher's Column



## "NINJA ROBOTS AND A LOT MORE!"

By: Mailyn Siao

*"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."  
Colossians 3:23-24*

Our seat plan in the canteen enabled me to eat lunch with some of the amazing boys of my advisory class. It was strategically planned so that as an adviser, I could watch over these boys, correct misbehaviors, and prevent fights during lunch time. Aside from enjoying my meals, I spent my lunchtime listening to their interesting stories – from their favorite toys to their favorite cars, to their pet dogs, their favorite food, their kind of music, their video games. Just basically anything and everything under the sun! There I would learn about luxury cars (like Lamborghini and many others), different breeds of pet dogs and video games which I never heard before. I remember one of the boys asked me if I play ninja robots. Before I could utter a word, one of the boys responded, *"No she's too old for that. I think Candy Crush fits her age."* I didn't even know what ninja robots were. Eating with these young boys was really fun!

During those few lunchtime minutes, I forgot that I am at my 40's (at least for a while) and indulged in learning with these boys. As young as they are, if you just intently listen, you'll be amazed of how mature they think and how they perceive things. One example was when one of them said, *"You know what, my grandma studied in the US and she comes from a very good school."* Hearing that "someone comes from a good school in the US" didn't really ring a bell. What struck me was the response of the other boy. He said, *"You know what, there's no such thing as a good school. It's what people do, it's what you do that makes the school good!"* I couldn't believe that the statement I just heard came from the mouth of a third grader!

That statement really got me thinking! As a Christian teacher, I asked myself what I did to make PCGS a good school. How did I react when a

student's temper was out of control or when someone seemed to be ignoring everything I said? Did I show love? When the paperworks started to pile up on my table, did I tend to get more task-focused than student-focused? There's definitely been some moments when I responded with less love, and there have been times that I did not show a Christ-like behavior.

I praise God for my students whom God used to teach me a lesson. I was reminded to radiate God's love to my students, and to the people I come in contact with to make PCGS a good school. I was happy that I spent time in listening to their interesting stories. Whether it's about ninja robots or Lamborghini or just about anything, there's always something that we could learn from them.

## "WITHOUT MAKEUP"

By: Hannah Mae Miras

*"Teacher, are you sick?  
You look pale."  
"What's with today, Miss?  
Your cheeks are pink."*

These are snap judgments teachers get as soon as students see them. Physical appearance, as what my college professor would emphasize, plays a significant role in teaching. It is not everything, but it is something. Then, one unprompted comment from a student caught my attention.

*"Miss, why don't you try coming to class without makeup?"*

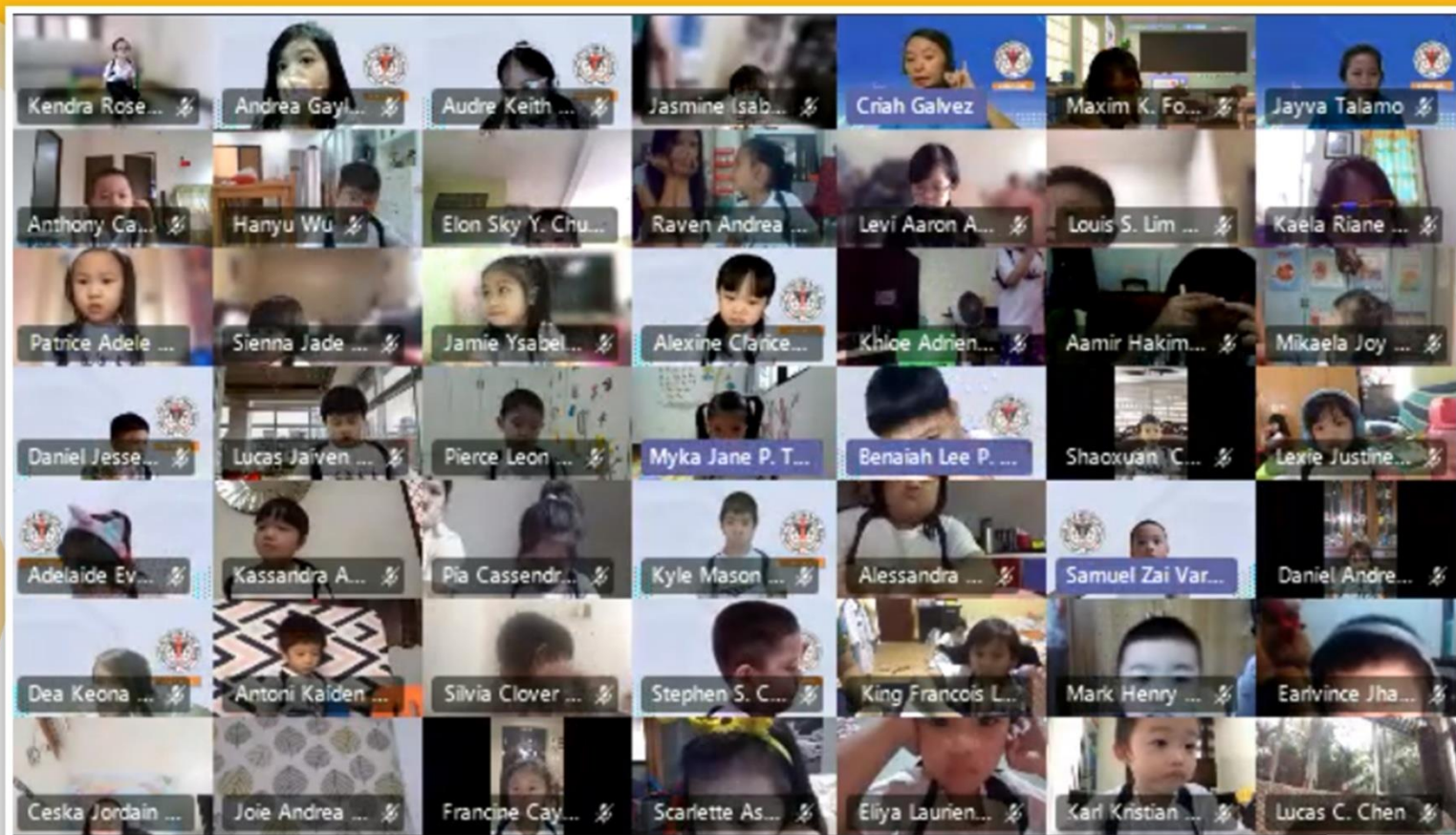
The comment sounded ridiculous, yet I was brought to deep thinking. I replied that I would look horrible if I were without makeup. She said that it would be fine. Although I did not come to class without makeup, that comment brought me to realize one important thing our students asked of us – authenticity. It is important that teachers display acceptable behavior but that should come from genuine practice or true lifestyle. Our students don't need a pretentious display of application of theories and methods from books. They need examples that live out godly values and character.

As a teacher, I had always thought that I have to display good behavior or else my students would not respect me, or I would not be deserving of any respect. Authenticity does not mean displaying good behavior for just a show. It is leading by example, and it is being able to admit one's mistake and to respond well in humility and repentance. Our students do not need perfect people who will inspire them to avoid as many mistakes possible. They need authentic people who will encourage them to continue doing what is right and learning from their mistakes.



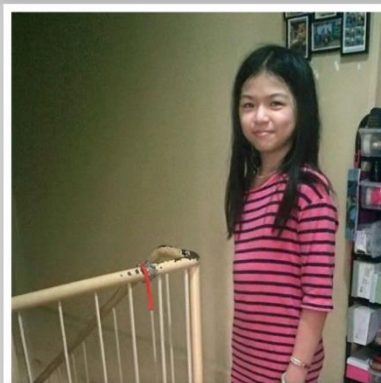


# PRESCHOOL DEPARTMENT





# ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT





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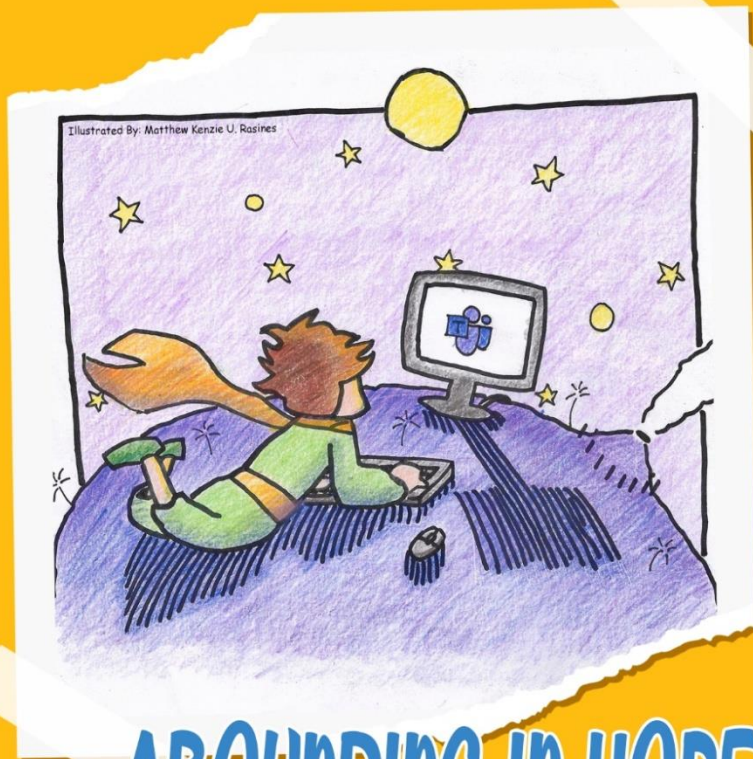
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# ABOUNDING IN HOPE

Humility and Obedience



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PHOS ALETHEIA is the official student publication of Philippine Christian Gospel School. PHOS ALETHEIA means LIGHT and TRUTH in Greek which is the aim of the publication. In its 28th volume, the school publication aspires to give hope in this uncertain time through the varied compositions penned by students, teachers, and staff focusing on the theme: ABOUNDING IN HOPE: HUMILITY & OBEDIENCE.