

Poetry

Group 1



The Creation Of The Compass

Diocesan Girls' Junior School, Chan, Jacey Megan – 8

Amidst ancient China's lands,
A gift's crafted by two skilful hands.
He was Shen Kuo, a Chinese scientist,
A polymath and a horologist.

Born in Hangzhou, the capital city
Of eastern China during the Song Dynasty.
A wise mind of the Middle Kingdom,
Shen was a master of ingenious wisdom.

With the power of a magnetic stone,
A secret force, a power unknown.
A needle, trembling, sought the way,
Navigating sailors in the ocean spray.

Shen invented the compass, a guiding light,
Unveiling mysteries of the day and night.
Also the first to discover the true north,
A path to follow, a course set forth.

Now, the compass spreads far and near,
Treasured and embraced by all who steer.
From the Silk Road to endless boundary,
We rejoice in this wonderful glory!

Embracing Connections

St. Joseph's Primary School, Lo, Chun Hei Brandon – 8

In ancient times where dragons soar,
Lived curious hearts that longed to explore.
Though oceans were deep and mountains high,
They embarked on journeys far and wide.

A magnetised needle on a leaf
And a bowl of water was all they need.
With a compass in hand, they sailed the seas
Guided by stars and carried by breeze.

Directions all set yet challenges remained,
For the weather was not forever plain.
When rough winds blew and tides ran high,
The ships were tossed and swept aside.

With that in mind, Lu Ban observed
Fish swim with grace in the way they swerve.
Enlightened by nature, he invented the rudder,
That steered the ships through stormy weather.

Deep blue conquered, the next step was flight.
Silk fabric on bamboo frames, the very first kite.
Carrying messages across the distance,
Onto battlefields to the army's assistance.

As gears of the clock turn the wheel of time,
Opportunities open up to all of mankind.
Inventions, creations, a flurry of innovations,
Closing the gaps between human connection.

And China has never stopped in her tracks,
Advanced and progressed ever so fast.
Like high-speed camera twirling in a blur,
Astonishing the world as transformations occur.

For now time has reached the modern day,
Exploration dreams have never swayed.
A spaceship was launched to study the heavens,
By the name of Shenzhou, to solve science questions.

With Tiangong space station, the docking was done,
 Taikonauts work hard there and float around in fun.
 And Mars' space mission on its rocky plains,
 The rover, Tianwen, exploring the terrain.

Up in the skies there was C919,
 A home-grown airliner developed ever so fine.
 While millions of people gleefully gather,
 Watching her glide low over Victoria Harbour.

Over the Earth and the universe we roam,
 But home is the place we call our own.
 Deep, deep within we never forget
 It is our loved ones we yearn to connect.

So let us navigate the uncharted skies
 To a future where endless possibility arise.
 With flying suits and time machines,
 Glowing underwater cities so serene.

And by then, my friend...

Wherever you are, whatever place it might be
 From the depths of the sea to the alpine trees,
 To the ends of the Earth on the distant shores,
 Where snowflakes pour and seagulls soar

Would the distance between you and me
 Be merely an open door?

My Belt and Road Railway Journey

Victoria Shanghai Academy, Chan, Eugene – 7

On the train, I hop with joy.
 An adventure awaits for this young boy.
 Towering mountains, side by side
 To my left and right the entire ride!
 As this locomotive makes the bend,
 Snapshots of landscapes I will send
 To my teachers, my grandparents and my best friend.

Now, on a bridge high above the water,
 The closer radiant sun made it seem hotter.
 Could you imagine how far we have come?
 The thought of riding horses and wagons made me feel numb.

The stars are like cities that scattered and glowed.
 Like Beijing, Moscow and Venice, connected along the Belt and Road.
 A spiderweb of rails that can connect the world:
 Travellers, tourists and businessmen can see cultures unfurled.

Can you see the crowd at every station we pass?
 People from all over the world, together at last!
 Some go home after a long year of school,
 Tired mommies carrying babies covered in drool.

A modern Silk Road allows ideas to be free.
 But not just silk, spices, cotton and tea!
 I won't forget to mention technology!

We stop in Kunming and rest for the day.
 Destination: Vientiane, on the China-Loas Railway!
 Over a thousand kilometres of spectacular views,
 No wonder so many people waited in queues!

We finally hop on, and my seatbelt is buckled.
 My sister is excited as she laughed and chuckled.
 Mama gives us a warm and sweet cuddle.
 Limestone rock mountain as high as the sky,
 My sister spotted rice paddies with her cute little eyes!

It's amazing to imagine how Chinese inventors think.
Once a landlocked country, Laos is now land-linked!
All because of an engineer named JEME Tien Yow.
Projects like Belt and Road
Proves the future is now!

At the end of the ride, we see our dad.
I'm glad I wrote this poem to save the fond memories I had.

Creative Writing

Poetry

Group 1



New Tales of China's Inventions

Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Chan, Ngok Fung Alvin – 6

In ancient China, where wonders abound,
Inventions were born, with joy they astound.
From the compass that guided brave explorers,
To the swift abacus, with its calculating powers.

Oh, how the fireworks lit up the night,
With colours and sparks, a glorious sight!
From gunpowder's magic, they were born,
To celebrate festivals, a joy to adorn.

The art of papermaking, so delicate and fine,
Brought knowledge and stories to every line.
Books and scrolls, with wisdom contained,
In ancient China, knowledge reigned.

The grand Great Wall, stretching afar,
A marvel of engineering, a majestic star.
Built to protect, to defend with might,
A symbol of strength, a glorious sight.

And let us not forget, the mighty porcelain,
With its delicate beauty, a treasure to win.
From vases to bowls, each piece unique,
Ancient China's pottery, a joy to seek.

So let us rejoice in ancient China's glory,
Inventions that shaped our world, their story.
With gratitude and wonder, we raise our voice,
To celebrate their brilliance, let's rejoice!

China's Inventions

Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Ho, Tak Yuet – 8

China's inventions are really useful.
They made most of what we use today!
All of these things are really helpful!
They help us with our everyday routines!
When we want to remember things,
We write and draw on a piece of paper.
When we want to get explosive fireworks,
All we need is some gunpowder.
Compass is a mini map for us,
We use it for hiking and sailing.
Umbrellas can shelter us from the sunlight,
It also covers us when it's raining!
Toothbrushes are mops for our teeth,
They help to make them sparkly white and clean!
We use silk to make pretty clothes,
It transforms us into king and queen!

Fireworks

Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Wan, Ho Ching Sophia – 7

Looking to the skies
Colourful fireworks
Blasting through the air
Boom! Boom! Boom!

Looking to the skies
Sparkling jellyfishes
Drifting through the air
Blink! Blink! Blink!

Looking to the skies
Thousands of comets
Travelling through the air
Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Looking to the skies,
Glowing flowers
Blooming in the sky
Kaboom! Kaboom! Kaboom!

Poetry

Group 2



An Omen for the Compass

ESF Glenealy School, Mithaiwala, Mariya – 8

China' world's first civilization.
Developed a magnetic compass used for navigation.

South pointing fish was an amazing invention.
That helped explorers steer in the right direction.

Lodestone was the material used.
Steel as the indicator was introduced.

Made in the early 11th to 12th century.
It was Han dynasty's remarkable victory.

An aid when the sun and stars were concealed.
Became an eye for the sailors to see.

Shen Kuo was the creator.
His innovation made China greater.

Spoon was used as orienting arrow.
Helped navigators find directions to follow.

This glorious discovery was worthwhile.
It benefited the world from time to time.

China's creation helped geographical research.
To discover new terrains on mother earth.

The Four Great Inventions of China

ESF Kennedy School, You, Dora – 10

In ancient China, inventions profound,
Four treasures emerged, their legacy unbound,
Guiding us throughout our life,
Let's enhance this ode to their glory,
And tell their tales with poetic story

A needle, magnetised, in water's embrace,
Seems so plain and lacks elegance,
But beyond its simplicity,
An indispensable tool, that shows you the way,
Yep, that is the incredible compass!

A mix of sulphur, charcoal, and saltpetre,
Will not result into a magical potion,
Instead a deadly chemical is formed,
Which has caused tragedies but also joy,
Yep, that is the extraordinary gunpowder!

Wooden blocks, etched with patterns unique,
Dipped in ink,
Are the start of a thousand books,
Beginning with just one letter,
Yep, that is the marvellous printing press!

Rags, tree bark, hemp and water mashed then squeezed
Could possibly be considered as garbage,
But it bears history's light,
A canvas for wisdom and thought,
Yep, they are magnificent pieces of paper!

These great inventions, these great ideas,
Are priceless gifts from the past,
Enriching our world, forever to last,
China's legacy, woven in time's embrace,
Inspiring wonder and awe, leaving a glorious trace.

World-Changing Chinese Inventions

German Swiss International School, Pun, Kimi – 9

Paper, printing, compass and gunpowder,
These inventions gave China its power.
Bullets, weapons, propagandas and trackers,
These inventions were altered by the foreign makers.
Who were the original inventors?

How else can you slurp your noodles up?
Of course, with a pair of chopsticks, yup!
Chang fen, mi xian and la mian,
Transformed into pasta, udon and ramen.
Who were the original chefs?

Ketchup, tea, tofu and soy sauce,
Added great flavours into our dinner course.
Stir frying, roasting and braising,
Who said it's only for French fries dipping.
Who were the original gourmet cuisiniers?

England always hosts the European Championship,
Who knew the first kick balls were actually made in China with cloth strips.
It's called the ancient Cuju,
Again, this was claimed by foreign countries too.
Who were the original football players?

A game with shovelling tiles made of bamboo,
Carved with patterns like cuckoo.
Modified into games like Bridge,
Turned the Italian and French from poor to rich.
Who were the original gamers?

A match is a powerful tool,
Ignited firecrackers that were pretty cool.
Lighted candles and lamps,
But the foreigners used it to light soldiers' camps.
Who were the original innovators?

Gunpowder was an accidental find,
Longevity medicine was what they had in mind.
It was then used for firecrackers,
But later used for defending from foreign attackers.
Who were the original pioneers?

Origami is a Japanese word,
How absurd!
It was an idea taken,
Which made China's heart shaken.
Who were the original artists?

Wheelbarrow was a lifesaver,
Helped carrying heavy loads from here to there,
Transported wounded soldiers from battlefield,
Later transformed into all things that need to be wheeled.
Who were the original saviours?

Lurking, stealing, lying and altering,
Originators were often forgotten.
These are inventions that changed the world,
China has been the source of many innovations.
Still continuing to be the world leading mastermind.

Who knows what will be next?
It may be another out of the world project.
The future awaits,
For other magnificent creations,
Made by our great Chinese inventors.

Cai Lun: The Inventor of Who We Are

Maryknoll Convent School (Primary Section), Chow, Sonja Kit – 11

In the dark dark world of China,
 In the unknown corner of Leiyang,
 there lived a bright, vibrant mind.
 Where Cai Lun lives,
 he allows his fingers to connect with hemp and tree bark, instead of tons of bamboo scrolls
 that tire the knowledge of a simple book.
 He dreams of something that can carry this book further.
 It is this stack of dog-eared paper that defines who we are and what stories we tell.

The amount of intellect in his mind,
 his perseverance intertwined,
 he made paper,
 then paper created a world of carrying,
 the inky world he was born in,
 How could he ever imagine a page of snow?
 Without that spark of light,
 there would be nothing,
 just like a starless night.
 There would be no love letters,
 There would be no newspaper,
 There would be no source of learning.
 We would all be soundless.

But Cai Lun wanted us to be heard.
 he wanted something to pass down for generations,
 something as thin as the skin of a tree.
 He waited months and years,
 for the leaves to change into brown,
 so as his hair from black to ash white.
 He no longer feels the scorching pain of the labour,
 but the trail of words leave scars on his hands.

Not enough words in this world could describe the story of this maker,
 The maker of all maps.
 Endless stacks of poetry,
 Lives in a library.
 His ideas were first rough,
 but he did not give up.
 The piece of paper I am looking at now,

there were once a thousand trees,
 a thousand years of history speaking to me.

Cai Lun made an ark of light,
 that's why the ink finds a voice to rhyme.



Creative Writing
Poetry
Group 2

Great Inventions of China

Yaumati Catholic Primary School (Hoi Wang Road), Cheng, Lok Man – 11

What are great inventions of China?
They include the compass, paper,
Movable printing and gunpowder.
They are important here and afar.

To replace strips of wood and bamboo
Which were heavy for people to move,
Cai Lun invented sheets of paper
With mulberry and bast fibres.

Paper was gradually spread worldwide
By travellers on countless camel rides
With textiles, tea and heavy loads
Criss-crossing the ancient Silk Road.

The first compass was used in warfare,
Where a ladle pointed on a calibrated square.
It was later used to explore and navigate,
Making an impact in culture and trade.

In a modern compass, the needle
Is made from a magnetic metal.
It always points to the north,
No matter where you go forth.

Bi Sheng invented movable printing
For efficiently books reproducing.
Cuts of Chinese characters were made,
They were as thin as a coin in sticky clay.

Single types were assembled
In a metal frame without trouble.
On the solid block, paper was pressed
So as to create a duplicate of a text.

The first explosive was gunpowder
Which comprised carbon and sulphur.
Gas was produced when ignited,
In a gun it propelled a bullet.

Black powder was multi-functional:
It was used in fireworks and signals,
Weapon making, stone digging,
As well as pipe and road building.

The inventions are ancient but great,
As the inventors never stopped to innovate.
Thanks to advances in technology and science,
We can enjoy daily comfort and convenience.

Ancient Chinese Inventions

Yaumati Catholic Primary School (Hoi Wang Road), Fan, Lai Man – 11

Great inventions of China:
Compass and gunpowder,
Printing and paper making,
They are simply stunning.

The first compass, *si nan*,
Invented in the dynasty of *Han*,
Is a south-pointing ladle
That seems common and usual.

A modern compass is round,
The needle can turn around.
It always points to the north,
No matter what you go toward.

People wrote on strips of bamboo
Which were too heavy to move.
They also wrote on fabric of silk
Which was as expensive as gilt.

Cai Lun created the first sheet of paper
With mulberry and other bast fibres.
It was used for wrapping and padding
As well as writing and printing.

Gunpowder was developed by Taoists,
Originally for medicinal purposes.
It was later used in weapons
At war, such as in cannons.

Gunpowder produces flares in signals
That illuminate but do not explode.
It produces power in rockets
That propels, with gases ejected.

Incised were characters of Chinese
On wood blocks and pieces.
Buddhist scriptures and beautiful cloth
Came from printing with wooden blocks.

Great inventions are all-inclusive
As well as functional and creative.
With advances in culture and science,
Our lives have been more convenient.

Poetry

Group 3



The Gift of Paper

ESF South Island School, Wong, Waai Chung Brandon – 14

*“The journey of
a thousand miles
begins with one step.” – Lao Tzu*

The Gift of Paper

In the realm where ancient China’s embers glow
Where wisdom and innovation intertwine and flow
A tale unfurls
A prophet’s legacy to bestow

In the land where legends breathe life anew
Dragons dance
and phoenixes majestically pursue
Cai Lun, a man adroit
with profound ingenuity
He unveils a marvel

Mulberry bark, hemp
old rags and fishing nets too
With dexterous hands, he pulps
and presses

Paper is born

Ink pirouettes on parchment’s pure expanse
Calligraphy —it is a sort of elegance
bewitching those who behold
Its dance

Scrolls of Confucius, sacred and copious
portray secrets of the past
Legends of warriors, poets, emperors
engraved on paper, a testament to China’s name

By virtue of Cai Lun’s wits
the written word ascends

The Great Wall’s splendour, a guardian resolute
and terracotta warriors too, his honour they protect
Paper, a witness to
China’s prestige —a phoenix rising with grace

*Let minds become dragons
and soar through
these boundless skies of
imagination.*

How Tea Came to Be

Nord Anglia International School, Bogard, Ari – 12

It blew in the wind,
Attached to its tree,
Attached to its family,
When suddenly,

A gentle gust of wind,
Made it fall,
Falling,
Falling,
Falling,

It was angelic,
In that moment,

It was a feather,
Falling from a nest,

It was a piece of paper,
Blowing weightlessly in the wind,

It was a bird,
Slowly flapping its wings,
Flying over a picturesque mountain,

It was a snowflake,
Unaware that it was soon going to melt,
And fade away forever,
Or so it thought,

It was graceful,
In that moment,

It was a ballerina,
Performing most elegantly to a sold-out theatre,

It was a swan,
Gliding across a smooth, cool, lake,

It was a part of its surroundings,
It fit in perfectly,
It was the missing puzzle piece,
The cherry on top of a perfect landscape,

So down,
Down,
Down,
It went,
Until suddenly,

Plop!
It landed,
As daintily as it had taken off,

Its beauty was overlooked at first,
It may have been neglected,
But soon,
It would become the epitome of elegance,

And it was now in a regular,
Normal,
Perhaps even boring,
Cup of steaming water,

The emperor did not notice its significance,
Had no idea that drinking it would change the course of history,
And took a sip,

And that one sip,
From that one small, inconspicuous leaf,
From that one charming little tree,
From that one beautiful little garden,
In a small but comfortable palace,
Owned by a renowned herbalist,
In the middle of a vast country,
In a big, wide world,
In a never-ending universe – its full contents unknown,

Changed everything forever.



Creative Writing
Poetry
Group 3

Should paper not exist

Good Hope School, Lau, On Kei – 12

Should paper not exist
Knowledge would resist
People's learning remain
Turning senses into a stain
Lives without long lists

Should paper not exist
Finances would be missed
Coins dwell in our bags
Pockers all in rags
Economy shall desist

Should paper not exist
Traditions would not persist
Pleasure from above
Decorations like paper doves
We will never reminisce

Should paper not exist
Our lives would be a mist
The future would turn to ash
Progress would be trash
Thoughts will be all blisshed

The Four China Inventions

Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Sun, Audrey – 12

In ancient lands where empires roar,
tales were woven, as unfurled its store.
Innovations spun in tapestries of yore,
as ideas galore erupt and soar.

Creativity splashed within traces of ink,
Cai Lun's creation, made in a wink.
woven into delicate sheets without time to think,
paper, history's treat although it's not candy pink.

Gunpowder's spark, a flash of harms,
Wei Boyang's gift, petrifying charms.
Fireworks and propellant firearms,
saltpeter sure did set off alarms.

Pointing off into the northern unknown,
Shen Kuo's compass, not a phone.
Every single direction shown,
giving guide in seas and mountain zone.

A marvel's mold, where letters stance,
Bi sheng's press, quality and speed enhance.
Ink-drenched characters, a vibrant trance,
words always moving, a rhythmic dance.

In clasp of history, innovation sprint,
Carving a path, with tenacious tint.
From east to west, their echoes imprint,
Robust innovations, a legacy glint.