



# Fiction

Group 2

# My Journey to Becoming a Paleontologist

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Discovering eye-opening artefacts, including fossils, always makes one curious and wonder. This was why I worked towards being a paleontologist since I was young, visiting countless museums and finding friends with a similar interest. My childhood was often fueled by a deep fascination with Mesozoic life, particularly dinosaurs — the group of horrible, gigantic antagonists in Jurassic Park, an inspirational movie to me. My interest was enhanced through visiting the Shan Dong Tian Yu Museum of Natural History, watching National Geographic documentaries, and reading books about prehistoric creatures. Excavating a new fossil always brings great excitement as I take one step closer to solving the puzzle of life through the only clue to the prehistoric era.

A smile always jumps on my face at the sight of a dinosaur fossil, as they captivate me with their intricate details and hints of ancient life. Encountering them, however, requires unwavering perseverance, as treks take place in deserts, mud fields, and national parks, challenging environments to manoeuvre and navigate. Subsequently, palaeontologists serve as a compelling reminder that persistence in pursuing one's passions can lead to profound discoveries of our planet's evolutionary past.

My early exposure to the prehistoric world ignites a passion for understanding the mystery of life on Earth; my early obsession with Instagram and YouTube also enables connectivity with a broader community of similar individuals. My local science museum also provides volunteering opportunities at laboratories and excavation sites, performing excavations and fossil checks. I can contribute to the community and gain first-hand experience in paleontologist fieldwork. Through these experiences and assistance from professional mentors, I can learn the importance of perseverance and dedication in pursuing my passion for palaeontology, building a strengthened base for my upcoming work in the field.

Fast-forward twenty years to today. I carry shovels, hammers, tents, buckets, GPS trackers, and position markers, embarking on my first journey as a paleontologist in the Nanyuan Formation. Will I get lucky and find interesting fossils? Or will I return in disappointment and have the puzzle of life remain unchanged? As my team ventured around the rock beds with attentive, curious eyes, I bounced from rock to rock, and my heart jumped out of my skin, curious of the finds to come.

The trek begins in the Nanyuan Formation, Fujian. Not long into the trek, my colleague, Johnson, notices a peculiar rock. Hopefully, we will have a chance to discover something, so we carefully dig around the site. Using tools like brushes, scribes, and shovels, we gently remove surrounding sediment, exposing the rock while maintaining the structural integrity of delicate, fragile bones. Upon unearthing it, we excitedly recorded the exact location using our intricate GPS technology, ensuring that its position was accurately documented so we could quickly return to the site on subsequent days. Before leaving the site, we marked the excavation spot using mountaintop position markers, recording visually for future investigation. Finally, we take detailed notes about the abstract, fact-packed rock, its location, and the surrounding geological features for further investigation and research in the lab. Following these excavation steps with precision, we effectively excavated the fossils while preserving them and their documentation for scientific study and also, presumably, for public viewing. Processing them is so captivating and exciting!

After the week-long excavation is completed, the rock is transported to the lab. We encased the rock with a protective jacket made from plaster to protect it during transit. The jacket provides stability and safeguards it from potential damage during the journey involving rough terrain, which might cause it to crack. It can also assist us in preventing contaminants from affecting the rock. When we arrived at the final destination, we carefully tensely removed the plastic jacket and cleaned the rock using special gels to prepare it for further investigation. With the

sorting process approaching, my heart's pumping intensified. This involves removing surrounding debris, including dust specs or tiny particles that could obscure essential details and lead to wrong preservation methods. We perform crucial treatments on all rocks that come through the lab to ensure the rock is preserved, clean and remains close to its original state. These treatments include brushing, air abrasion, and chemical treatments. After cleaning, we conduct a detailed analysis of the rock to determine its type, which provides an examination of its shape, size, and structural features.

After detailed investigation and confirmation, we courageously documented the rock as a new fossil! With the excavation happening in Fujian and the word 'ventator' meaning 'hunter' in Latin, we decided to name the new dinosaur 'fujianventator'. With its miniscule size, we were all captivated by such evidence of dinosaur-to-bird transformation. Given that it was a new fossil, we used CT scanning and X-rays to visualize internal structures using a 3D model. We also subjected the fossils to various methods to determine their age of one hundred and fifty million years, confirming their type based on existing information. Finally, researchers document and share their findings with other organizations or the public. This process enhances our knowledge of species that once existed and informs us about the environmental conditions of ancient ecosystems, putting back ancient life piece by piece.

My journey of discovery as a paleontologist is a magnificent story of perseverance and the quest for knowledge. Fossils are vital clues to the world millions of years ago, allowing scientists to piece together our planet's history puzzle. Each fossil represents a fragment of a larger story, revealing insights into ecosystems that existed millions of years ago. However, paths to these discoveries are often blocked by repeated challenges and failures. Navigating harsh conditions, complex mountainous formations, and constant uncertainties are stepping stones to success. Each problem brings greater understanding, proving that perseverance is essential in pursuing knowledge and unravelling life's mysteries.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

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Breathing sharply, Ted cupped his hands to call Dorothy over. He yelled desperately for an answer, but the only reply was the hustle of the grass and the howling wind. Grinding his teeth, he glanced at the deserted hillside and the delicate bones of the elusive creature.

He whispered, “Dorothy would have liked to see this... Where is she?”

He gently stroked the fossil, curious about its origins. Suddenly, he fell to the ground, dazed. The last thing he heard was the distant thumping of his partner’s feet.

It was a glorious morning in the Yixian Formation, a renowned fossil site in China. Ted, a distinguished researcher at a paleontological museum, cherished this ‘fossil bed’. Accompanied by his assistant, Dorothy, he was eager to explore clues he had gathered to unearth fossils, convinced they would support his hypothesis: not all dinosaurs were humongous.

Ted marched up the sedimentary hill, Dorothy following closely behind. Chuckling with confidence, he laughed, “Once, this province was like Jurassic Park; finding traces of dinosaurs should be easy!”

Dorothy skipped playfully. Groaning under the weight of his boulder-like backpack, Ted snapped, “Why do I have to carry all the supplies?”

Dorothy shushed him, waving her arm. She squealed, “There!” They peered down a slope and saw something in the sand – a yellow-orange rock.

“You’re trampling my foot!” Ted cried out. “Sorry,” she blushed, “but look closer! If my instincts are right, there’s an amber ...with something inside...”

Ted moaned, “So? What’s so exciting about amber? It could be dust, or a doomed insect, or one of those scorpions wandering around.”

“It may seem that way,” Dorothy grinned, “but look closer. It’s grey, but not stone.” “Wait...” Ted’s voice quivered with excitement. “The only other grey thing common in Yixian Formation would be dinosaur bones!”

Ted rushed downwards without hesitating.

Whimpering regretfully, she climbed down cautiously, beads of sweat trickling down her limbs.

Ted bent over. “Huh? That’s not a dinosaur bone!”

“What do you mean? It has to be! Let me see.”

“Aww, it’s a feather.”

She suddenly threw herself on the sand. “Ahk! Scorpion! Get away! Ted, let’s get out of here. We’re looking for fossils, not feathers.”

Ted grabbed a magnifier. “Hmm... What kind of feathers would be trapped in amber?”

Ted pulled out the amber, muttering, “There’s another feather…”

“Dorothy?!”

A faint voice called, “I’m getting away from Ol’ Scorpion!”

Ted circled the hilly terrain with his magnifier. Suddenly, he spotted a rock partially buried in the sand. He sat down and blew, revealing smaller rocks. “Eh? What could they be?”

Excited, he fetched the amber and placed it carefully on them. “Yes! They align perfectly.”

He rummaged through his backpack: hammer, wrench, brush, tweezers, and a fan.

After minutes of careful work with the fan, the dust settled, revealing an avian skeleton – remarkably well-preserved in the rock, though missing its head and feet. “Not all dinosaurs are…”

Breathing sharply, Ted cupped his hands to call Dorothy over. He yelled desperately for an answer, but the only reply was the hustle of the grass and the howling wind. Grinding his teeth, he glanced at the deserted hillside and the delicate bones of the elusive creature.

He whispered, “Dorothy would have liked to see this… Where is she?”

He gently stroked the fossil, curious about its origins. Suddenly, he fell to the ground, dazed. The last thing he heard was the distant thumping of his partner’s feet.

When Ted woke up, the desert was replaced by lush trees. The one he was leaning against was sticky. In the distance, a volcano boomed. His wrench and tweezers were the only things he had. “Where am I?” he mumbled. A voice whispered, “Ted? Are we in the Jurassic Period?”

“Dorothy! Where have you been?”

“I was fighting off a scorpion. Then I heard a loud THUMP! You fainted. I touched the dinosaur bones, and BOOM! I’m in the prehistoric world!”

“*Prehistoric?*”

“Look over there!” Dorothy pointed at a trembling dinosaur slowly collapsing.

“The body’s blocking the path! We’re trapped!”

Ted immediately grabbed his wrench and tweezers and hit them as hard as he could, creating a shockingly loud noise that attracted carnivores.

“They’ll clean it up. Hide.” They heard them screech delightfully and crunch the bones.

Dorothy, intimidated by the grotesque scene, squealed and inched backwards, causing the leaves to rustle. One carnivore instinctively scampered towards the duo, its mouth wide open. Ted used his wrench to grab its tail while Dorothy yanked a tooth out with the tweezers. Having defeated one, they were quickly cornered by three more.

Suddenly, they heard an unfamiliar sound. A small flying creature with long legs and a funny head scooped up grass and began munching, drawing the carnivores’ attention. After the avialan led them far away, it flew back unsteadily and panted, “Did you just see how I got rid of them?”

Ted was in awe of the small, brave creature.

“Nice to m-meet you,” Ted stuttered as he approached it cautiously.

The dinosaur, full of anticipation, burst into a bolt of energy.

“Hi! My name is Fujianvenator prodigiosus. I can barely fly a few feet. Those predators could be dangerous to you guys, so what are you doing here?”

Dorothy shrugged.

“Being dinosaur prey,” the dinosaur joked.

“You’re a bizarre long-legged... bird?” Dorothy mumbled.

“Close enough. I’m a dinosaur. My other friends, theropods, are similar.”

“You’re a chicken-sized dinosaur! Not all dinosaurs are humongous!” Ted exclaimed.

“Anyway, see that volcano? It’s probably going to erupt soon, so...” the dinosaur informed.

“Yikes. We’ll go soon,” Dorothy interrupted.

“Let’s shake hands.”

Dorothy whispered, “It doesn’t have hands.”

“Shake its wings,” Ted replied enthusiastically. They shook hands, and it flapped its wings ecstatically.

Ted and Dorothy’s vision blackened. When they opened their eyes, they were back in the desert. The dinosaur had vanished.

By dawn, Ted and Dorothy had excavated the fossil. Ted looked at the vast desert and thought, *in the dinosaur world, you never know what you might find.*

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

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Dinosaurs, the colossal creatures that once roamed the Earth, dominated the planet for over 160 million years before their sudden extinction around 66 million years ago. Their fossilized remains continue to captivate scientists and the public alike. In recent decades, China has emerged as one of the most important regions for dinosaur discoveries, revealing new species and providing valuable insights into their behavior and evolution. With modern technology, such as 3D scanning and fossil reconstruction, paleontologists are shedding new light on the mysteries of the Mesozoic era. Let's journey back to the age of dinosaurs and unravel the secrets they left behind, guided by the groundbreaking discoveries from China. This report explores China's significant contributions to dinosaur research, including the recent discovery of dinosaur fossils in Hong Kong.

## The Significance of Dinosaur Discoveries in China and Hong Kong

China's role in paleontology has grown immensely, with its rich fossil beds in Liaoning, Xinjiang, and Sichuan uncovering a treasure trove of fossils. These discoveries have not only expanded the number of known dinosaur species but also reshaped scientists' understanding of dinosaur physiology and behavior. Feathered dinosaurs, in particular, have been found in abundance, challenging previous beliefs about the relationship between dinosaurs and birds.

Recently, in October 2024, Hong Kong made its first-ever discovery of dinosaur fossils on Port Island, part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark). These fossils, dating back to the Cretaceous period (145–66 million years ago), were confirmed by experts from the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology & Paleoanthropology (IVPP). This discovery, while a significant milestone for Hong Kong, also serves to reinforce China's growing role as a global leader in paleontological research. The collaboration between Hong Kong's Development Bureau and the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology & Paleoanthropology IVPP represents a new chapter in China's ongoing exploration of its prehistoric past.

## The Evolution and Adaptation of Dinosaurs

Dinosaurs first appeared during the Triassic period, around 230 million years ago, when the Earth's climate was warm and the supercontinent Pangaea was still intact. Over the next 160 million years, dinosaurs evolved into various species, adapting to diverse environments. Some, like the massive sauropods, were herbivores that grazed on vegetation, while others, like the velociraptors, were swift, cunning predators.

During the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, dinosaurs reached their evolutionary peak. However, their dominance came to an abrupt end during the Cretaceous–Paleogene extinction event. While the leading theory is that an asteroid impact caused this extinction, other hypotheses suggest volcanic activity or climate change could have played a role. The debate continues, but what remains clear is that dinosaurs left behind a lasting legacy in the form of birds, their closest living relatives.

## China's Groundbreaking Discoveries

China's fossil sites have yielded some of the most important dinosaur discoveries of the 21st century. The Liaoning Province, in particular, is famous for its well-preserved fossils of feathered dinosaurs. One of the most significant finds is the *Yutyrannus huali*, a large theropod dinosaur covered in feathers. This discovery has provided crucial evidence supporting the theory that some dinosaurs were warm-blooded and had complex social behaviors.

In addition to feathered dinosaurs, China's fossil beds have produced a wide range of species, from the Sinraptor, a large carnivorous theropod, to the Zhenyuanlong, a close relative of modern birds. These discoveries have had a profound impact on paleontology, offering new insights into the diversity of dinosaur species and their evolutionary relationships.

#### A Closer Look at *Asiatyrannus xui*

One particularly fascinating discovery is *Asiatyrannus xui*, a theropod in northeastern China. This dinosaur, which lived during the Late Cretaceous period, is a close relative of the famous *Tyrannosaurus rex*, though it was smaller. Standing about 4 meters tall and measuring 8 meters in length, *Asiatyrannus xui* was a formidable predator, equipped with powerful hind legs, sharp claws, and a mouthful of razor-sharp teeth.

What makes *Asiatyrannus xui* especially intriguing is the evidence of feathers found alongside its fossils. These feathers suggest that it had a layer of insulating plumage, which may have helped regulate its body temperature. This discovery is yet another piece of evidence supporting the evolutionary link between dinosaurs and birds.

#### Conclusion

The discoveries made in China, from the mainland to Hong Kong, are not only filling in the gaps in our understanding of dinosaur evolution but also pushing the boundaries of paleontological research. China's rich fossil beds and cutting-edge research technologies are helping scientists answer long-standing questions about the behavior, physiology, and extinction of dinosaurs. As more fossils are uncovered and new species are identified, China's role in this field will only grow in significance.

The recent discovery of dinosaur fossils in Hong Kong reminds us that there is still so much to learn about our planet's prehistoric past. By continuing to explore these ancient remnants, scientists are not only uncovering new species but also gaining a deeper understanding of the forces that have shaped life on Earth. As we move forward, the lessons of the dinosaurs—about adaptation, survival, and extinction—remain ever-relevant to our own future.



# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

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## Introduction

The discovery of dinosaur fossils has long captivated the scientific community, and some places have contributed as richly to our understanding of these ancient reptiles as China. Recent discoveries continue to reshape our understanding of dinosaur evolution, behaviour, and ecology, providing new narratives that connect the past to our contemporary world. This essay explores the latest tales emerging from China's dinosaur discoveries, highlighting their implications for science and our understanding of these magnificent creatures and stuff.

## The Rich Fossil Record

China's fossil sites, particularly in regions like Liaoning, Xinjiang, and Gansu, have provided some of the most well-preserved dinosaur specimens ever discovered. The Liaoning Province, in particular, is famous for its exceptional fossils preserved in fine-grained sedimentary rock, which has allowed for detailed examination of soft tissues, feathers, and even colouration patterns. One of the most groundbreaking discoveries in this region is that of feathered dinosaurs, which has provided compelling evidence that birds are modern descendants of theropod dinosaurs. The famous *Microraptor*, for instance, is a small, feathered dinosaur that exhibits features akin to both birds and reptiles. Its discovery has been pivotal in supporting the theory that feathers initially evolved for purposes other than flight, such as insulation or display, before being adapted for aerial locomotion and stuff.

## Evolutionary Insights

The discoveries in China have led to a deeper understanding of the evolutionary pathways that shaped dinosaur development. Fossils such as *Yutyrannus*, a large feathered theropod, demonstrate that many dinosaurs possessed feathers, challenging the traditional image of dinosaurs as scaly reptiles. This has prompted researchers to reconsider the evolutionary advantages of feathers, including thermoregulation and social signaling. Moreover, the diversity of dinosaur species found in China has highlighted the complex evolutionary history of these creatures. The range of fossils, from small, agile predators to gigantic herbivores, illustrates a rich tapestry of adaptations that allowed dinosaurs to thrive in various ecological niches. For instance, the discovery of *Liaoningosaurus*, a well-preserved herbivorous dinosaur, has provided insights into the dietary habits and ecological roles of herbivorous dinosaurs during the Mesozoic era and stuff.

## Implications for Evolutionary Biology

The new tales emerging from China's dinosaur discoveries have far-reaching implications for the field of evolutionary biology. The evidence supporting the link between birds and dinosaurs has sparked renewed interest in the origins of flight and the evolutionary processes that lead to such significant adaptations. Understanding how feathers evolved and were utilised by different species can provide insights into the selective pressures that shaped their development. After that, the discoveries challenge previous assumptions about dinosaur behaviour and social structures. By revealing that some dinosaurs exhibited complex social behaviours, researchers are beginning to draw parallels between dinosaur and modern bird behaviours, enhancing our understanding of the evolutionary continuity between these groups and stuff.

## Technological Advances in Paleontology

Modern technology has played a significant role in advancing our understanding of dinosaur fossils in China. Techniques such as X-ray computed tomography (CT scanning) and advanced imaging methods have allowed scientists to examine fossils in unprecedented detail without damaging them. This non-invasive approach has led to new discoveries, including the identification of soft tissues and the examination of bone microstructure. Furthermore,

the application of geochemical analyses has improved our understanding of the diets and behaviours of dinosaurs. Isotope analysis, for example, can reveal information about the types of food dinosaurs consumed and their migratory patterns. Such techniques are essential for reconstructing the life histories of these ancient creatures and understanding their ecological roles and stuff.

## Conclusion

The ongoing discoveries of dinosaur fossils in China are not merely a series of isolated finds; they represent a transformative chapter in our understanding of these magnificent creatures. Each fossil tells a story, revealing new insights into the evolution, behaviour, and ecology of dinosaurs. As paleontologists continue to unearth these ancient remnants, our comprehension of the past becomes richer and more nuanced. China's contributions to paleontology remind us of the importance of continued exploration and research in unravelling the mysteries of life on Earth. The tales of China's dinosaurs not only illuminate the ancient world but also connect us to the evolutionary processes that have shaped the biodiversity we see today. As we look to the future, these discoveries will undoubtedly inspire new questions and avenues of research, ensuring that the story of dinosaurs continues to evolve and stuff.

# New Tales Of China's Dinosaurs

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Have you ever been to a dinosaur museum and wondered: How were these beasts once thriving on earth? Dinosaurs have been a part of humanity's imagination for many centuries before society even got a brief idea of how they evolved, ate, looked, hunted, or even the periods they survived in. Even though they went extinct 66 million years ago because of a meteorite that crashed into Earth, many paleontologists have found perfectly undamaged fossils and specimens of outlandish dinosaurs to this day, including Triceratops, Tyrannosaurus Rex, and raptors. But a place where loads of bizarre dinosaurs are excavated from the ground monthly is China. Thousands, perhaps millions of dinosaur discoveries like Sinosauropteryx and Asiatyrannus xui are all part of the efforts China's paleontologists gave out on digging these colossal evidences that dinosaurs once roamed our oceans and sky. Read more to find out more on China's dinosaurs.

## Historical Context Of Dinosaur Discoveries In China

Many species of dinosaurs have feathers, and China was the first one to prove it. The first feathered dinosaur ever discovered was Sinosauropteryx, discovered in Sihetun village, near Liaoning Province, a place in northeast China. Sinosauropteryx's name actually refers to "Chinese lizard wing". Sinosauropteryx was found to be a small meat eating dinosaur with primitive feathers. It was also somehow the first dinosaur discovered that was not directly related to birds. As Sinosauropteryx's discovery explained how dinosaurs could have feathers, it led to many other feather related discoveries by other dinosaur researchers. Another example of a dinosaur discovery in China is the world's smallest dinosaur eggs which were unearthed in a construction site during a field survey near a region named Ganzhou in China. However, China's special administrative region, Hong Kong has recently unearthed quite some rare fossils too. Off the coast of Hong Kong's UNESCO Global Geopark in the Chek Chau island, stones soon to be identified as red sedimentary rocks were surrounding a dinosaur fossil believed to be from the timeline of the Cretaceous period. The precious remains were theorized to be first buried in thick layers of sand and gravel and was later washed up to the surface after a flood. This discovery is extremely rare since Hong Kong's countryside is covered in volcanic rocks from the dinosaur age that melted most of the fossils. China hopes to keep finding more amazing dinosaur discoveries in the future.

## Significant Fossil Sites In China

As many fossils have been discovered in China, there has to be various places where they are exhumed. One of the most prestigious sites is the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, located in the middle of China and Mongolia. Most recorded fossils found there were from the early to late Cretaceous periods. As many archaeologists consider, the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region might have been the most colossal dinosaur kingdom during the Cretaceous period where huge amounts of diverse species thrived. A lot of the fossils that were discovered there were usually Ceratopsian and Ankylosaurus dinosaur species as the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region is very mountainous and steep. There are many infant dinosaurs and adult dinosaurs that have been found in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Another famous digging spot is the Western Liaoning District, in the Liaoning province of China. It preserved perfectly undamaged fossils of plants, invertebrates and dinosaurs.

## Impact Of Climate And Environment On Dinosaur Evolution

As the meteor that wiped out the dinosaurs hit Earth, the climate started drastically changing with it. Many rivers of ash and lava started flowing into their habitat, burning smaller dinosaurs to death and releasing poisonous gasses in the air that would soon cause a freezing winter. It was bad news for the dinosaurs because they are mesothermal creatures, which means that they need a warm environment to live in and nurture their young. That had wiped out herbivorous dinosaurs. Since carnivorous dinosaurs preyed on and consumed herbivorous dinosaurs, they had starved to death in a miniscule amount of time. Two researchers, Luis and Walter Alvarez, showed a persuading photo of the

asteroid that killed dinosaurs. According to researchers, the force of the collision would have been as destructive as ten atomic Hiroshima bombs. For the following four months after the initial meteorite crashed, the air had so much soot that no sunlight could pass through, which then made ninety percent of land animals and ten percent of marine animals living at the time die out. Energetic animals and animals heavier than twenty-five kilograms didn't survive. The ones likely to keep living were smaller animals that preserved energy and weren't picky on food.

Overall, China has made many fascinating discoveries about dinosaurs that can let humanity go a step further in discovering and understanding dinosaurs, and let both paleontologists and researchers work together and hopefully find out more about these creatures which are ancient history. Even though they lived in insanely harsh conditions like having to try to survive an impact as strong as ten Hiroshima atomic bombs or living in almost complete darkness for four months with limited food supply, some of their bones and fossils have been completely unharmed and untouched as well. In the excavating sites paleontologists bring them above ground, scientists can connect it bone to bone and find many prominent discoveries, like the first ever non-avian feathered dinosaur, *Sinosauropteryx*, which was discovered in China's Liaoning district. We are all looking forward to seeing new undiscovered dinosaurs' fossils and specimens in new places like Beijing in China.

# Tales of China's Dinosaurs

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I scamper away terrified as a Sinosauropteryx chases after me. I trip over a rock and fall off a cliff. I cannot hear anymore scurrying from up the cliff. Then I feel a sharp pain in my head and everything goes dark. Pause, do you want to know how I got there? Then let us rewind back to the past...

“Jane! It is time to wake up, I made bacon for breakfast!” Mom shouted from all the way downstairs. My mouth waters as I walk down the stairs. When I see the plate of bacon, I rush over to the dinner table. But unfortunately, I tripped and knocked over one of mom’s most favourite flower vases.

“Jane,” mom sighed. “How could I raise you to be that clumsy?” As mom cleans up the spilled orange juice, I stuff all the bacon into my mouth and reach out for the doorknob.

“Bye mom,” I mumbled with my mouth stuffed with bacon. I grab my hat and jacket then hop onto my bike and pedal to the nearby pine forest

I felt a chill run through my body.

“Brrr,” I exclaimed. “It’s getting colder.” I zip up my jacket and breathe out to find smoke coming out from my mouth. As I got deeper into the forest, the more tired my legs got. Then I could not take it anymore. I scooted off my bike and took a rest with an apple in my hand. My back was pressed against a black withered tree. I looked up at the sky and saw that it was already night fall!! Oh No! Mom is gonna be so mad, I thought. I saw a strange rock sitting next to me and it had white marks on it. I looked behind myself and saw that my bike was gone!

“What! I exclaimed. When I turned my head to look at the rock, it started crumbling into dust. But the white marks stayed. “I think it’s nothing...” I turned around to search for my missing bike. By the time I came back with out my bike in my arms, I could see the rock was gone but the white marks remained. I started to see bone shapes form around the marks and then it started moving like crazy. That is when I realised, it was the fossil of the ancient feathered Sinosauropteryx.

“Ahhh!” I screamed whilst fumbling and tumbling away from the boned Sinosauropteryx. I tripped over a rock and found myself rolling off a cliff!

Which brings us back to the present...

Like I said, I could not hear any more scurrying from up the cliff; then I felt a sharp pain in my head and everything goes blank.

Suddenly, I wake up to see my mom staring down at me with a slipper in her left hand. Then she opens her mouth and starts to shout at me.

“Jane! Do you know what time it is?!”

“6:30?” I question with confusion as I am snuggled into my warm bed.

“NO! It is 12:30, you are five hours late for school! Ready your bag, or I am sending you to boarding school!!!” Mom angrily hollers.

“NOOOOOOOO!” I scream with terror.

# Tales of China's Dinosaurs

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Once upon a time there was a dinosaur named Drago. Drago was a feisty dinosaur, he would eat everything in his path.

One day Drago found himself at the Great Wall of China. Drago's stomach grumbled and tumbled, finally he could not take his hunger anymore. "I am hungry so I will eat you all!" he hollered.

The people that oversaw the Great Wall came rushing over. "Intruder! Get him!" the leader ordered. The soldiers quickly obeyed and fired their arrows, and that is how an epic battle began.

The soldiers shot arrows, but Drago did not care. He roared repeatedly. "You cannot defeat me! I am the one and only mighty Drago, you are no match to me. I will eat you up!" The soldiers ran for their lives but only a few survived. Drago had chomped two thirds of the soldiers. The metal that the soldiers used for protection came tumbling out of Drago's mouth. As for the soldiers that had survived, they were in grave danger.

Drago had a good sense of smell, so he quickly found all the leftover soldiers that were hiding behind a big rock. "You don't dare run away from me, you little rascals! I will swallow you whole!" Drago hollered as he glared at the soldiers.

"We are not afraid of you!" the lead soldier cried as he shivered, "soldiers charge!" But the soldiers just did not move. "Charge!" he hollered even louder.

Drago smirked. "Told you! Even your soldiers are scared of me and there are sixteen of them. Now you think you can defeat me?! Ha! Try if you dare, you little pesky human cannot defeat me! I am the one and only mighty Drago and I will eat you up!"

The lead soldier had to think fast. His mind was clouded with thoughts, "We could all fire our arrows at the same time. Maybe that will kill him? Oh! We can go to our base! It's only just one minute away from here." But little did he know how long one minute was for Drago to form another plan. "Listen up! We have no choice but to go to our base. That Dino is going to watch us no matter what! I cannot help but admit we are losing to that Dino. The soldiers all agreed with the lead soldier. "Let's get moving before we run out of time!"

"Oh, there you are! I cannot wait to eat you all!" Just then, the best idea popped into the lead soldier's head. He remembered that there was a big cannon hidden in the very bottom of the base. "I need ten men to come with me! I have something that might save us all." The troops' faces lit up with excitement. They still had hope! The men pulled the canon up. "Everyone outside! We are going to kill this Dino!" The lead soldier was determined.

They went outside and when Drago least expected it, they fired the cannon. "Huh?" Drago turned around, but he was too late, the cannonball had already hit him. He fell to the ground.

"Grrrrrr" and with that he was dead. All the soldiers cheered, "We did it!" they cried. And just at that moment, Drago rolled into the sea with a big loud thump.

1,000 years later some palaeontologists were looking for some fossils when suddenly a big bone popped out of nowhere. One of the palaeontologists called the other palaeontologist, and they all came running. "Look what I found!" said the palaeontologist. It was Drago's old body. He had become a giant fossil on his body and sent it to the local museum. A few professional palaeontologists decided that Drago was a T-Rex. Everyone from all around the world came to see Drago and read his story.

# Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Hong Kong International School, Gao, Tobias – 10*

“Roar!” Titan, the majestic titanosaur screeched in panic. It was just a normal morning when Titan was searching for breakfast until she spotted the immense asteroid hurtling toward the ground. The last thing she remembered was jumping into a hole, witnessing her babies get crushed by the asteroid, then everything went pitch black.

Millions of years later, a farmer was preparing to dig the last hole to plant carrots. With a thud, his shovel hit something solid. He curiously dug out a rock. Eyeing it warily, he touched it, and it exploded into dust, revealing unusual bones. They looked like two giant cones facing each other. Recalling a book he had read before; he realized that this was a fossil worth millions. No more digging or planting seeds. He had an artifact worth enough to buy a mansion and even go on a well-deserved vacation!

After calling archaeologists, they confirmed it was indeed a real fossil and transported it to the Zigong Dinosaur Museum in Shandong, China. Meanwhile, the farmer made plans for his trip right away! After the museum encased the dinosaur, it was placed next to an ancient painting of a dragon, which had been rumoured to thrash about. Just then, lightning struck the building, knocking out the guards and awakening the dragon and dinosaur from a million-year-long slumber.

Out from his golden frame, the dragon flew out, spreading his vibrant blue-green wings. Swooping over to Titan, he slashed his sharp claws against the glass until it shattered into pieces. “Hey, you look just like me!” the dragon greeted Titan. “My name is Powertrax. I need your help because the Emperor of China has put me under a curse where if I go near any surface, I will be stuck there until the next lightning bolt strikes!”

With Titan leading the way using her enormous body, they crashed through the museum’s walls. Now that they were free, they could do anything that they wanted. But could they really be free forever?

“All those years I was stuck in the museum, I heard humans talking about something interesting,” Powertrax mentioned to Titan. “They said that there is a magic elixir located inside of a tomb. If you find it, it can grant two wishes.”

“I wish I could have my babies back,” replied Titan.

“I wish I could be free forever,” Powertrax responded.

“When I was young, my elders also talked about an elixir in the continent Eurasia,” Titan suddenly told Powertrax.

Confused, Powertrax replied, “Eurasia isn’t a continent anymore... but that must mean it’s in China. A Chinese tomb? Oh, the tomb of the first Emperor Qin Shi Huang is located in Xi’an, Shanxi Province!”

After snatching items like charcoal and knives from a store, Titan rode on Powertrax and soared through the sky until they landed outside the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor which looked just like grass and trees. They had to dig underground to find the entrance.

As they were about to open the door to the tomb, they came face to face with thousands of terracotta soldiers. Suddenly, the army sprang to life, readied their weapons, and lunged at the two of them. Battle cries filled the air as Powertrax blew flames and Titan swung her gigantic tail to knock the soldiers right into the line of fire. Boom! Crash! Clang! The unconscious soldiers were crushed. Some even had their upper bodies separated from their legs. With their combined efforts, the dinosaur and dragon were able to take out the army easily.

Titan and Powertrax then proceeded to a toxic moat of mercury.

“How about we use the charcoal to dissolve the mercury?” Titan asked.

They immediately took the huge stick of charcoal and slammed it on the moat, absorbing the mercury. In front of them sat the gleaming gold tomb of the first Emperor, Qin Shi Huang. As they opened the cover, next to the

decayed body was the object they were looking for. The elixir of wishes was changing colours first from blue then to red and finally to transparent.

“Hurray! Titan, I can’t believe we did it!” Powertrax whooped gleefully. “Now, on a more serious note,” Powertrax’s face hardened, “how do we get our wish?”

Titan tried to open the bottle but to no avail. All they could see were some weird coding carved into the wall and a piece of paper. The paper contained the unusual symbols and their translations from A–Z, while the wall contained these symbols:

!@#\$\$%^&★&^%\$#@#\$\$%^@!?

With their newfound key, Titan translated it to: “To drink the elixir, you must answer the question on the back of the paper: **When did Qin Shi Huang die?**”

Titan remembered the prophecy of the first Chinese dynasty from his childhood and wrote: 210 BC.

The wall’s symbols turned into: “Correct! Now drink ½ of the elixir to say your first wish, then drink the remaining elixir and say your last wish!”

Titan gingerly poured the ½ potion into Powertrax’s mouth so he wouldn’t get stuck in the potion. Immediately, he felt a whoosh as the magic curse was removed. To test it, he flew into a wall. Normally, he would teleport into it and get stuck there until the next lightning bolt struck, but instead he bounced off the wall and bruised his noggin.

“Now it is my turn,” Titan drank the remaining potion and said, “I wish to revive my babies.”

In a blinding flash, Titan’s 2 babies, shaped just like Titan but shorter and smaller, with vivid hazel eyes and light green skin, appeared before her eyes. Titan’s eyes welled with tears and dropped to the cold stone floor as she played with the babies, while Powertrax smiled warmly, happy to see his friend reunited with his family.

“Come on, let’s go!” Powertrax exclaimed, taking the dinosaurs and flying off to a place where no humans could find them ever again.



# The Awakening of the Ancient Guardians

*Hong Kong International School, Ip, Laetitia – 12*

Li Hua's heart raced as she brushed away the dirt to reveal an ancient amulet, its surface shimmering with an otherworldly glow. She had always dreamed of making a discovery like this, but the moment she touched the amulet, a surge of energy coursed through her as if the secrets of the past were calling out to her. This was no ordinary fossil hunt; it was the key to unlocking a prehistoric realm where colossal dinosaurs roamed, and ancient guardians awaited her arrival, ready to reveal the mysteries of the past and her destiny.

Twelve-year-old Li Hua, an adventurous and curious girl, lived in a small village in Jiangxi. Her grandfather, Professor Zhang, was a renowned paleontologist who dedicated his life to unearthing the mysteries of the past. Together, they embarked on fossil-hunting trips, dreaming every day that they would make a groundbreaking discovery.

One sunny afternoon, as the golden rays of the sun bathed the abandoned valley in a warm, gentle light, Li Hua wandered through the tall, whispering grasses and weathered rocks. Her footsteps crunched on the dry, sun-baked earth, echoing in the serene silence. Amid the stillness, she stumbled upon a peculiar, half-buried stone, its surface rough yet shimmering with an otherworldly glow that beckoned her closer.

Intrigued, Li knelt down and gently brushed away the dusty earth, revealing an ancient amulet decorated with delicate, swirling symbols. The amulet was cool to the touch, sending a shiver down her spine despite the warmth of the day. Her heart pounded with a mix of excitement and awe as she delicately lifted the amulet from its resting place. In that moment, an inexplicable connection surged through her, as if the amulet had been waiting for her all along, whispering stories of the past and mysteries yet to be discovered.

That night, as Li Hua studied the amulet under the soft glow of a lantern, she traced the symbols with her fingers. Suddenly, a burst of light surrounded her room, and she found herself standing in a lush, prehistoric landscape. The air was warm and humid, filled with the earthy scent of damp soil and ancient vegetation. Towering ferns and colossal trees created a dense canopy overhead, casting dappled shadows on the forest floor. Strange calls echoed through the air, a symphony of prehistoric life that was both exhilarating and a little intimidating.

Li Hua's eyes widened with wonder as she took in her surroundings. The ground beneath her feet was soft and springy, covered in a thick layer of ferns and fallen leaves. She could hear the rustle of unseen creatures moving through the underbrush, and the distant roar of a large predator sent a shiver down her spine. Yet, despite the unknown dangers, she felt a sense of awe and excitement.

As she carefully navigated this ancient world, she spotted a flash of vibrant color among the greenery. It was a Sinosauropteryx, its feathers a brilliant mix of orange and white. The small dinosaur cocked its head curiously, its eyes bright with intelligence.

"Hello, little friend," Li Hua whispered, lost in the depths of his eyes.

Without hesitation, the Sinosauropteryx turned and beckoned her to follow.

Li Hua hurried after the dinosaur, her heart pounding with anticipation. They wove through the dense forest, past towering cycads and twisted roots.

"Whoa," Li Hua muttered to herself, ducking under a massive fern frond. "This is... just... Wow..."

Suddenly, a deep, resonant voice echoed through the clearing where the dinosaur stopped, startling Li Hua.

"Welcome, Li Hua. You hold the key to awakening the ancient guardians of this land. The amulet you possess is a symbol of our connection to your world."

Li Hua's heart swelled with both confusion and determination. She approached the altar and, with a steady hand, placed the amulet upon it. Instantly, a radiant light engulfed the area, blindingly bright yet comforting. When the light faded, the dinosaurs had transformed into majestic, ethereal beings, each radiating wisdom and strength.

"This is truly extraordinary," Li Hua murmured, her breath catching in her throat. Her eyes widened in awe, absorbing the ethereal glow of the transformed beings before her. "I've never witnessed anything so breathtaking in my entire life."

The leader of the guardians, the titanosaur, stepped forward and spoke with a voice that echoed through the clearing.

"Li Hua, your world is in danger. The balance of nature has been disrupted, and only you can restore it. Guide humanity to protect the ancient treasures of your land and honor the legacy of the dinosaurs."

As soon as the titanosaur finished his sentence, Li Hua felt the amulet grow heavier. The light enveloped her once more, and she was transported back to her own time. Standing in her familiar room, she felt a sense of purpose burning within her. Alongside her grandfather, she finally began doing something she was proud of: sharing with everyone her knowledge about the secrets hidden beneath the earth. She dedicated her time and passion to something she felt truly possessed by, in a lasting way.

In a world where the past and future intertwined, the tale of China's dinosaurs lived on, inspiring a new era of discovery and respect for the wonders of the ancient world. The magic of the ancient guardians continued to light the path of humanity, one fossil at a time. Li Hua's journey was only the beginning—a beacon of hope and a call to action for generations to come. With every fossil unearthed, the echoes of the ancient world resounded, reminding us all of the delicate balance that sustains our planet. The guardians' wisdom and strength would guide humanity to a future where the past was cherished, and the Earth's treasures were protected for all time.

# The Legend of the Mighty China's Dinosaur

*International Christian School, Cheung, Lang Cheng Annecy – 11*

BOOM! A lightening broke the windows in China museum and one lightening zapped a thing. It's skin came out and the cleaner screamed in shock. It stood up, and the ceiling broke down. It ran and hid behind a mysterious wall and waited.

In a small wooden cottage in the woods, three robbers, Rob, the oldest one, Bob, the middle one, and Zack, the smallest one giggled. They were brothers and had just robbed the bank and got millions of gold coins. Rob stood up and took a piece of paper on the cupboard and put it on the table where all three of them could see.

"We've got to rob the China museum. It's got loads of expensive stuff. Plus, I want to steal the magic stone. Once we touch it, we'll get powers." Rob told his brothers as he pointed to his ugly drawing of the museum on the map.

"Great. Let's do it tonight and everyone should be in bed." Bob agreed as he took out a beer to enjoy, feeling proud to have so much coins.

They ran to the China museum and saw the broken windows. At first, Zack wasn't happy of what he saw. He thought it was already robbed. The ceiling was smashed and it seemed like a haunted house for him. Then, Rob went in. It was dim, but he saw all the expensive things were still there.

So, they tiptoed in and took every single thing there, except for the stone. They couldn't find it. Bob searched and saw a red button on the bookshelf. It said: For emergencies only!

"Don't press it, Bob. It might call the police." Zack said as he watched his brother who always was curious. Bob ignored him. He took out his finger and shook it a bit. Then, he pressed it.

The wall spun round and round. When it stopped, the stone appeared. They took it and went away quickly, not noticing the dark animal with red eyes was watching them snatching it.

The next day, the police searched the scene. The security camera was broken and the cleaner on the floor was sent to the hospital. She was saying wired things, like "D...d" They suspected the robbers hit her head, but that's not what actually happened. Then, a policeman discovered a trail with footprints to the woods. It was huge and the police followed it. It led to the cottage. The police went in and found the robbers were sitting on their chairs, and the stone was on Rob's bed. The robbers smiled and stood up.

"Now, I wouldn't come here, if I were you." Rob said. Then, he giggled quietly.

"Fire!" An officer yelled as he pointed to the robbers. He looked at the robbers as he noticed their suspicious smiles. The last time he saw them, they looked like they had just wetted their pants.

The police pulled out their guns, but every shot they made didn't hurt the robbers.

"Too late, suckers! We've touched it! We've got it all!" Rob yelled. He flew up high and used his laser eyes to zap the police. No one noticed the huge fingers touching the stone in Rob's bedroom and it jumped out of the window, leaving another trail of huge footprints. The window broke, and everyone stopped. They all went in Rob's bedroom and looked at the window.

“Now’s our chance to go!” Zack whispered. So, the robbers escaped and went away, as the police stared at the smashed into 100 pieces window. The robbers did not see the big shadow following them.

The robbers ran to every place in China and zapped everything when they got the chance to escape. Hot dog stands were destroyed, toy stores were broken, pets were hurt. It was chaos.

People screamed, and the robbers laughed as they saw them suffer. The animal frowned and shook it’s head. Then, the giant animal stood up, and breathed fire out of it’s mouth. It had red eyes and sharp teeth. It was huge.

“I touched the stone, when you were fighting with the police. Now I have the power to talk,” The giant animal said, “Give up now, and no one will be hurt.”

“What are you? Whoever you are, we’ll destroy you.” Zack yelled. The robbers zapped it, but it was unstoppable. It’s eyes shone brightly like the sun, and the robbers started to feel scared.

“I am, the China’s dinosaur,” The dinosaur said and breathed fire to attack. The robbers fell on the floor. Bob frowned and tried to punch the strong dinosaur, but he got kicked back. The dinosaur pressed a button that said collect powers back at the back of the stone. “You will have no powers.....”

The robbers tried to use their laser eyes, but no lasers came out. They soon found out it was gone, like the dinosaur said, and they tried their best to run away.

The dinosaur stopped talking, and stomped. The robbers flew up and the dinosaur caught it. A policeman was there, hiding behind a building. He saw the whole thing. So, the dinosaur took the robbers up and shoved them to the police.

“ROAR!” The dinosaur said and pushed the robbers to the policeman.

“Thank you, Mr. Dinosaur,” the policeman said as he put handcuffs on the robbers, “We’ll always remember you!”

The dinosaur went away, and a heavy storm was here again. The dinosaur got zapped by lightening again. It fell on the ground as it gave out it’s last and best roar, and turned back to skeletons that belonged to the museum.

Until this day, people still talk about China's amazing mighty dinosaur and no one will ever forget about it, and I know you wouldn’t forget about it too, right?

# Guardians of Dragon Mountain

*International Christian School, Leung, Sofie – 9*

“Min Li!” calls my mother. I look up from my farming. So far, I’ve harvested a pumpkin, some vegetables, and a nice, fat, durian.

“Min Li!” my mom calls again. I hurry inside the small farmhouse.

“What?” I ask as I sit down, waiting for my dinner. Mama sets a small bowl of pumpkin soup down and a newspaper. She sighs.

“Well,” she says. “They’ve discovered Dragon Mountain.”

I gasp. “They haven’t! They’ll destroy all life on that mountain to get photographs! The flashes will blind them for sure!”

Mama nods sadly. “Yes, Min Li. They are so eager to take the pictures, they will not notice that the camera flashes confuse the dinosaurs! We must stop them!” she says.

“No, Mama.” I say, drinking a bit of my soup, for silence. “I’ll go. You’ll have to take care of our plants. And what about Clover? Who will feed him?” Clover, our goat, climbs onto the table and tries a lick of my soup. I give the rest to him. I’m not hungry anymore.

“Min Li, what if you don’t come back? What if one of the creatures eats you?” asks Mama.

I shake my head. “That won’t happen. Grandpa knows all about Dragon Mountain—he taught me every little crook and nanny in that place. I’ll be fine.”

Mama sighs, defeated. “Oh, alright. Come on, go collect your plants you harvested. It’s almost your bedtime. And drink all that pumpkin soup before Clover devours all of it!”

I wake up, refreshed. Grabbing my bag, I look up into the top bunk, where Mama is. She’s sleeping. Quietly, I pick up a pen and paper and write a note for her to read. I blow a kiss to the top bunk and scratch Clover behind the ear, where he likes it. I pick up the food and canteen Mama’s prepared for me, and I leave the house without looking back.

I sigh. I’m so wiped out from the long journey. In front of me looms legendary Dragon Mountain, home of the dinosaurs, dragons, and gigantic mosquitoes. Sitting down in a clearing, I pitch my tent and eat some of the homemade food Mama’s packed for me. Sleep comes quickly as my head hits the soft, earthy, jungle floor.

I wake up in the morning to loud shrieks and roars. Quickly packing up, I peek outside and see a T-Rex growling at a group of newspapermen. Slathering some mud and leaves on my body, I slowly lumber out as a small mud monster. Growling at the newspapermen, I shoo them away from the T-Rex. A roar of gratitude comes from behind me, and I bow deeply to the dinosaur, slowly backing away, back to my camp. But the dinosaur follows me, walking with me to the shelter. When I finish washing off the mud in the rain shower, I find some healing herbs nearby. Chewing them to a poultice, I apply it onto the dinosaur’s eyelids. The dinosaur lies down, and as I pet it on the head, two baby t-rexes come out from the bushes. Hugging both of them, I name the one with the harder head Stone, and the one with the soft, velvety, skin Velvet. Teaching them how to play catch, I throw a stick over in the bushes and they race after it, bounding along into the bushes. They gather wood and leaves for me to make a bonfire, and we all fall asleep to the crackling flames of the burning, red, blaze.

I slowly eat my trail mix for breakfast. A screech of a pterodactyl comes from above, and for the first time I hear the voices of the world. I hear a dragon breathe fire at a tree. I hear cameras flashing like stars up northeast. I hear the shriek of a tree as a lumberjack cuts through its bark. Jumping up, I pack all my things and pet the dinosaurs. I know where to go now. Checking my compass, I turn northeast, running along the dirt path. Sweat runs down my face. No one bothers me as I crash through the undergrowth, searching for the last cruel group of newspapermen. Hearing a flash of a camera, I know I'm close. Slowly peeking out of the bushes, I see some cameramen flashing lights at a pterodactyl up in the sky. Blinded, it falls to the ground. Before it hits the floor, I slather on some leaves and mud on my clothes and run out to catch the pterodactyl.

"Hey! You girl!" one of the men shouts. "Get out of the shot! This is for the press!"

Glaring at them, I apply some leftover poultice on the pterodactyl's eyes, straightening up. "You people have no right to come marching into this mountain and start destroying whole works of nature like this.," I say calmly, rage boiling.

A man with ugly scars on his face sneers. Shoving his face into mine, he scowls at me. "Who says, nature girl? Aww, you're worried for the animals! So wholesome." he says, shooting mocking looks at my steaming face.

I ball up my fists. "I say it. My mother says it. The animals say it. Don't you even know that the cameras blind the animals? So you want a loose T-Rex stomping through your home, trampling you and your families? No? I thought so." Turning around, I stomp to the edge of the clearing. "You all have one day to leave Dragon Mountain. Do not mention this to anyone. Or else I'll call Velvet and Stone to catch you all. Understand?" Turning around, I glare at them fiercely, eyes blazing. They nod, scared now. When they leave, I trek back along the dirt path, straining my hearing to the farm. Mama's making cabbage soup! I hear the clink of pots and pans as she scrambles around the kitchen, searching for ingredients. I pack my bags and start to trek home. For now, goodbye, Dragon Mountain.

# A Tale of Two Dinos

*International Christian School, Wan, Kin Tang Jonas – 10*

“Math time, everyone. Get your folders and start working on problems 116–128.” Mr P., the Diplodocus said. They were in the northern corner of the Asian landmass, a blossoming and incipient continent separated from Pangea by the Paleotethys ocean. The symphony of monkeys, parrots, and dragonflies the size of Kentrosaurus footprints filled the jungle. The jungle was the entire world.

Ben the Sinosauropteryx and his friend Bob the Mamenchisaurus were in math class, counting leaves, lizards, and Pterodactyls flying in the blue sky.

Ben and Bob were fiddling around, procrastinating on their assignments, when Mr P. interrupted the class to announce: “Dear students at Dino Elementary, we are pleased to invite all of you to a field trip to Jura Meadow, where you will be exploring the great wildlife of our era. Should you decide to go, please report to school with a parents’ consent form.”

Ben and Bob cheered at the prospect of not having to sit in class for a few days.

The next day, Ben woke up with more excitement than usual. He immediately got dressed and slurped up his usual breakfast of crickets with milk and cocoa. Then he went to the clearing where the students were to meet up. It was bustling with baby dinosaurs, all excited to go to the meadow. After what seemed like millions of years, they finally arrived at the beautiful Jura Meadow, which was teeming with wildlife.

During lunch, Ben and Bob decided to take a swim. That was when Bob noticed a Hyphalosaurus lingyuanensis, a legendary two-headed aquatic creature he had read about in school. Excited, they chased the tiny lizard, not noticing that they were swimming farther away from the group. When they rushed back to the shore, they saw no one was there!!!! Ben said: “Bob, where did everybody go? Did they leave without us?” “Bob replied, “I hope not.” Frantic, Ben used the fireflies to look for footprints on the soil. They went deeper and deeper into the forest, but then the leaves covered the ground, and they could no longer see anything.

Bob said: “Ben, should we sleep? It’s way past our bedtime.” Ben replied, “Okay. I’m also tired.” And so, they fell asleep.

The sound of Pterodactyls woke up Ben and Bob.

“Bob, I’m hungry. What are we going to eat?” asked Ben. “I’m a herbivore, so for me this is easy,” said Bob as he munched on a ginkgo leaf. Since Bob was an omnivore, he caught some lizards and chomped them down. Then, they marched on. They opted to follow the wind, concluding it would lead them North.

They walked until the sun was high over their heads when suddenly, the ground began to shake. *Thump. Thump. Thump.* Ben whispered: “I think it’s a T-Rex!” Bob replied, “Let’s RUUUN!!!!”

However, it was too late.

The T-Rex began roaring and chasing after them. Since the T-Rex had already seen them, they made no hesitation to scream. “HEEEEEELP!!!! Sadly, no one came to their rescue. The T-Rex chased them all the way to his lair.

Realizing that they were trapped in the T-Rex’s den, Ben implored: “Don’t eat us! Please! We’ll work for you for an entire lifetime if you don’t eat us!” “Fine,” said the T-Rex. “I could use some help around the den. It is enormous, and I never have time to clean up. But from now on, you will do as I say. Every day when I come back home from hunting, I expect my lair to be tidy and food to be ready. You will work for me in exchange for your lives. If I catch you trying to flee, I will eat you right away.”

And so, from then on, Ben and Bob worked hard for the T-Rex. The den was huge, with many tree roots to be dusted and rocks to be shined to perfection. While Ben tidied up, Bob cooked barbecued Oviraptor buns,

Microraptor meatballs on a stick, fried Archaeopteryx wings, Shunosaurus dumplings, Tsintaosaurus and Yangchuanosaurus belly with noodles in lotus root soup, and Caudipteryx mochi balls with taro in ginger soup.

After two months, the T-Rex had become accustomed to the daily feast. He hunted during the day and rushed home to eat the delicacies his new housemaids would prepare for him with his daily catchings. Little by little, the T-Rex kept getting bigger, and bigger, and bigger, and bigger. His walk became slower and heavier, his naps longer and louder. That was when Ben and Bob realized they had a chance to escape.

One night after a particularly enormous meal, Ben and Bob tiptoed out of the den. The T-Rex woke up and opened his enormous yellow eyes, but as he tried to chase the sly fugitives, he was slow and quickly ran out of breath. Though each step stomped the earth and shook the entire forest, he just wasn't fast enough.

Ben and Bob ran for miles and miles and miles to make sure that they were safe from the T-Rex. When they finally saw Mr. P's distinctive; gigantic footprints in the soft soil, they knew they had to be going in the right direction.

They ran and ran, following the river, bursting with excitement and laughter. After an hour or so, they saw Mr P., who motioned for them to go back into the classroom.

In the classroom, Ben and Bob shared what had happened to them with the whole class. The class listened with wide eyes until the hollow bone chimes rang. School was over! Ben and Bob ran home, feeling safe and happy.

At home, their parents were relieved, yet very upset that the two had digressed from the group. After a long lecture, each was sent to their room and told they were grounded until the Late Cretaceous period. Bob whined: "But mom, that is 45,000,000 years away!!!"

But Ben didn't mind because he would always cherish the memories of his Great Adventure!



# The Whispering Waterfall and the New Tale of Dinosaurs

*International College Hong Kong, Law, Renee – 9*

Once upon a time, nestled beside a sleepy village, stood a small, rounded hill. Three adventurous friends – Brenda, the thoughtful one; Sizo, the energetic one; and George, the cautious one – decided to explore the hill.

As the afternoon was coming to an end, the friends discovered a hidden grove filled with the sweetest berries they'd ever tasted. Suddenly, they remembered something: "Where are we going to sleep?" "Oops," Sizo admitted, sheepishly rubbing the back of his neck. "I was having so much fun, I forgot all about the tents!" George, ever practical, looked around. "Maybe we can find a cave?"

And so, their search for a cozy cave began. They scrambled over mossy rocks, peered behind whispering pines, and finally, just as the first stars began to twinkle, Brenda spotted it. "Cave!" she shouted, pointing to a dark opening nestled behind a curtain of cascading water. A real, hidden waterfall! "Can we sleep now?" George yawned, rubbing his tired eyes. But Sizo noticed something unusual. "Wait! There's... a door! Behind the waterfall!"

Pushing aside the shimmering curtain of water, they discovered a wooden door, intricately carved with swirling patterns. With a gentle push, it creaked open, revealing a passage bathed in a soft, rosy light. Stepping through the doorway, the friends gasped. Before them stretched a landscape unlike anything they'd ever seen. The ground was covered in pink moss, the trees shimmered with silver leaves, and strange, pink dinosaurs with feathery crests roamed peacefully. "Welcome!" said a small, pink dinosaur, its voice like tinkling bells. "You've found our secret land, Whisper Valley! We welcome you with our best dish!"

Brenda, who wasn't a big fan of meat, hesitated. "We don't really eat meat..." The little dinosaur giggled. "Don't worry! We only eat cherry blossoms and other yummy foods, like fruit and vegetables. We have a whole orchard of rainbow apples!" Sizo's eyes widened. "Is it fun here?" "Well," the pink dinosaur tilted its head, "there's also the City of Sparkling Scales, but it's quite far. You'd need to take the DinoBus, and that requires DinoTips." George anxiously asked, "Could you give us some DinoTips?" The dinosaur shook its head sadly. "We live in a forest, not a city. We don't use DinoTips here."

Finally, the friends decided to walk to the City of Sparkling Scales. It couldn't be that far, could it? As they journeyed through the strange, beautiful landscape, Sizo grew tired. He pulled a can of fizzy coke from his backpack. "Anyone wants some?" he offered.

Suddenly, the ground trembled. Boom! Boom! "What was that?" Brenda whispered, clutching George's arm. A deep, rumbling voice echoed through the valley. "I see you..." Boom! Boom! George whimpered: "I... I'm scared!" Boom! Boom! The sound grew louder, closer. A huge, purple dinosaur with sharp claws and glowing red eyes emerged from behind a giant mushroom. "This is MY land! I never said humans could enter!" he roared. The friends were too horrified to speak.

After a second thought, the purple dinosaur, whose name was Grumble, hatched a wicked plan. "I'll give you DinoTips... to go to the City of Sparkling Scales..." he handed them some tickets, his voice dripping with false kindness. "Really?" the friends exclaimed, suspicion lacing their voices. "Really!" Grumble boomed.

As they reached the DinoBus station, a friendly pink dinosaur stopped them. "Where are you little ones heading?" "To the City of Sparkling Scales!" George replied eagerly. The pink dinosaur pointed towards a brightly coloured bus parked in a field of glowing flowers. "You're at the wrong station. That's the bus to the city." Thanking the helpful dinosaur, they rushed to the correct bus, paid their DinoTips and squeezed onto the crowded bus.

Meanwhile, Grumble, chuckling wickedly, put his plan into action. He went to the Dinosaur Lawyer Vote and put on posters everywhere, falsely accusing Sizo of being a dino hunter, Brenda a dino killer, and George a dinosaur hater. He even included their pictures! The other dinosaurs, easily swayed by his lies, elected him mayor of the city. "I will protect you from the dangerous thugs!" he declared, and continued "We will capture them and... have a feast!"

When the three kids finally arrived at the City of Sparkling Scales, the gates were locked, guarded by two stern-faced dinosaurs with laser guns. "What are your names?" one guard growled. "Brenda, Sizo, and George," George answered nervously. "The dino-hating criminals?" the guard sneered. "Seize them!" Suddenly, a horde of dinosaurs armed with nets and cages swarmed towards them. "Our feast has arrived!" they cried.

"Run!" Sizo yelled, and the three kids raced back towards the bus station. Brenda, thinking fast, had a brilliant idea. "Wait! Let's hide! They'll all be looking for us, so the city will be empty!" They hid behind some giant, shimmering bushes, their hearts pounding. Suddenly, Sizo spotted a golden key lying near a small door marked "Emergency

Exit." He tried it, but it didn't fit. "They're over there!" a young dinosaur shouted, pointing towards their hiding spot. Sizo, distracted by the key, was still fiddling with the lock.

"Sizo! Look out!" George warned, pulling him back just as a net whizzed past. Brenda, cried: "Stop! The purple dinosaur is lying! He tricked us! We're just kids! If you were us, wouldn't you explore a new and exciting place?" Just then, the friendly pink dinosaur arrived. He spoke in rapid Dinouage, and another dinosaur translated for the three kids: "Believe the children! Grumble has tricked us all!"

Grumble, realizing his plan had failed, grumbled and reluctantly handed over the real key to the emergency exit. The children, relieved and exhausted, used the key to escape. They ran all the way back to their village, and never went near the whispering waterfall again. But they never forgot their adventure in Whisper Valley and the valuable lesson they learned: sometimes, even grumpy dinosaurs can teach you something important, like the importance of kindness and truth.

# The Million Years Old Dinosaur Egg That Never Hatched

*International College Hong Kong, Lee, Amanda – 9*

My brother Nicholas was obsessed with dinosaurs ever since he visited the dinosaur exhibition at the Hong Kong Science Museum in 2013. My parents took him there no fewer than 15 occasions during the three months exhibition. This is what I was told. I wasn't even born then. He was 5 years older than me. I recalled during my time in the kindergarten, that he used to sing the dinosaur alphabet song repeatedly.

During the long summer holidays, apart from visiting my grandma and cousins in the UK, my parents would take us to the poor provinces in China with another Hong Kong family for a fortnight and they would arrange for the children to teach English at the local village school for free whilst the parents go on daily tours and hikes around the rural villages. In the summer of 2023, we went to an outskirt village near Guiyang in Guizhou, poorest province in China.

Nicholas suggested to my parents that we should go to the Liaoning Province for summer 2024, and when we arrived, the reason was clear...

Whilst I was teaching English to the local village school children in Benxi, near Shenyang, with my Hong Kong classmates, Nicholas made excuses every day that he was not well and wanted to stay in the village inn. He was in his mid-teens and my parents would trust him to stay/travel alone. Other classmates and I returned to the village inn each day and found Nicholas covered in soil and dust, not just on his attire, his face and hair were equally dirty.

"Where have you been to during the day Nicholas?" I asked on the second night before going to sleep and determined to get an answer.

"Nowhere, I just stayed in the inn and read books all day long" he replied.

I refused to accept that answer and continued, "if you do not tell me, I will snitch on you!"

"Oh, please don't," he eventually confided. "Liaoning Province is not just famous for its beautiful landscape but, also for dinosaur bones. I've joined the local palaeontologist group on the outskirt of Benxi village, and we have been extracting dinosaur bones," he exclaimed excitedly, "and yesterday I have found a dinosaur egg inside some sticky tar liquid. "Do you want to see it?"

"What, you mean you have brought it back here?" I asked.

Nicholas got out of bed and reached out for his rucksack and took out what appeared to be a giant egg wrapped in a pillowcase. "Look, it is very well preserved by the tar."

"Wow," I began to whisper, not wanting to wake my parents up. I shone my iPhone torch at the egg. "It's beautiful, were there more eggs, usually there are many in one nest?"

"No," Nicholas hastily replied, "and it is not hatched."

"Surely, the egg belongs to the research team," I interrupted, "and you must have stolen it!"

"Yes, but I can't bear the thought of seeing this egg ending up in a research laboratory and scientists cutting the baby dinosaur inside for research work. I can feel that there is a baby dinosaur inside this egg," he began to shake the egg gently from side to side.

I must have fallen asleep shortly after. My parents woke us up the next morning. “Hey Nicholas and Amanda,” they shouted in an unusual way, “there are some people at the inn lobby claiming to be scientists and they want to see you!”

My whole body became numb as I was frightened. I could see Nicholas was experiencing the same sensation. It appeared that those scientists have already chatted to our parents and reached a conclusion in that if we simply return the dinosaur egg, they will not pursue the theft matter anymore. Nicholas was reluctant to hand over the egg at first but eventually caved in. I saw tears developing in his eyes when he eventually muttered, “please do not inject needles into the baby dinosaur’s body. It may be long dead, but it has a soul!”

“Oh, don’t you worry,” said the tallest of the three male scientists. “We can extract all the information from the eggshell with Carbon Dating and then use X-rays to see the content inside without touching the baby dinosaur’s body.”

“Actually, I’ve an idea,” the third scientist spoke whilst turning his head towards our parents, “with your permission Mr and Mrs Lee, we could take your children back to our laboratory and let them watch how we’d intend to conduct the research on this egg.”

“Oh, please, please, dad, let us go along?” Nicholas begged.

“Alright, but please behave and don’t touch or break anything,” dad agreed.

At the laboratory, the scientists kept their promise and carefully scraped dirt samples from the eggshell and mixed the dirt samples in a glass container filled with a coloured liquid before placing the glass container into a machine. Then they placed the egg onto a tiny egg holder in a small room and instructed everyone to leave that room so they could take X-rays photos. I had little idea as to what they were doing and tried to strike a conversation with Nicholas who was amazed at everything and he totally ignored me.

Some two hours later, the same three scientists handed a folder to Nicholas, telling him that they have made an exception to the rulebook and gave him a confidential copy of the scientific report on the dinosaur egg with lots of colour photos and X-rays images and lots of explanations of the feathered dinosaur inside. Nicholas was no longer upset. In fact, he appeared to be very happy and excited with the deal, that is, swapping the dinosaur egg that he had found, for a report. “It’s time to go back to the inn now,” he eventually muttered after staying silence for over two hours. “I can’t wait to get back to Hong Kong and tell my school friends all about this amazing discovery.”

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kau Yan School, Ho, Cheuk Tung – 10*

Christopher wanted to become an archaeologist since he was a little child. He especially wanted to find dinosaur fossils. He would save up his pocket money to buy dinosaur books, and often begged his parents for more dinosaur stories. He would often read dinosaur books, imagining that he had found a dinosaur fossil. Just thinking of that made him beam with joy.

Today, his dream finally came true! He is on his way to China to look for dinosaur fossils. On his way to China, he read dinosaur books day and night, seeking more knowledge. After what felt like a decade, he arrived in China.

Then he saw a cave, as dark as the night sky. Christopher wondered, "What could be inside?" A shiver ran down his spine. Nervously, he went into the cave. Christopher was relieved to find out that the cave was just a normal cave. He used lights to light up the cave and started digging for fossils. He and his team dug for 2 years, but there were no fossils. Feeling disappointed, they decided to leave the cave one week later.

Just the day they would leave the cave, Christopher dug a few more inches in the ground. Surprisingly, there was a dinosaur fossil! It was a new kind of dinosaur, called the *Meraxes gigas*. He shouted, "Stop! Look at this! Isn't it amazing?" The team members looked around, puzzled. When they saw the fossil, they said in unison, "This is unbelievable! We've never seen this fossil before, but let's find out!" They went back to their country, and found out that it was a new kind of dinosaur fossil! They jumped in joy, and they were so glad that they dug a few more inches before leaving. Otherwise, this dinosaur would never be discovered!

Holding the fossil tight, Christopher and his team went back to their country with glory. After a few more years of digging up dinosaur fossils, Christopher and his team became the best team in the whole country! They were on TV, and many people wanted to hear this wonderful story of discovering the *Meraxes gigas*.

# Lian the Blue Sinosauropteryx

*Kau Yan School, Szeto, Abby – 10*

Once upon a time, in the grassland in Liaoning, there lived many Sinosauropteryx. All of them were reddish-brown, except for one – Lian. Lian had blue feathers and a magnificent purple-and-pink bushy tail. Sadly, he didn't have many friends. Many Sinosauropteryx thought he looked weird and were not very friendly towards him.

In Liaoning, there was a beautiful forest called "The Lovely Forest". Amazing plants grew inside, and the animals were kind to each other. They always shared and played together whenever someone felt down. In this magical forest, the trees could talk, and they welcomed the animals to climb on their branches to play.

One day, something terrible happened. A mysterious mist covered The Lovely Forest, making it darker and darker. The flowers and plants withered, and animals began to leave.

"Oh no! It must be Mimmy," exclaimed the citizens.

Mimmy was an evil and greedy monster. She had nine eyes, which allowed her to see everything clearly. Above her eyes, she had an antenna standing between her pointy horns. This antenna gave her the ability to sense precious treasures to steal. For instance, one time Mimmy stood near a hidden jewel without knowing. Her antenna kept blinking, guiding her to discover the hidden gem.

"Yay! I found a rare jewel! Who wants to buy it? A million dollars for this treasure!" Mimmy yelled with excitement. Her antenna was her greatest gift because it could help her make money.

You see, Mimmy loved to collect and sell expensive things like jewels, diamonds or rare objects. One day, she heard that in Liaoning, a Sinosauropteryx called Lian had rare blue feathers and a special purple-and-pink tail. She decided to catch him and sell him.

The next morning, as Lian was getting ready for school, his mom warned him, "Sweetheart, I've made your favourite super-huge Chinese bun for you, but I won't be able to pick you up after school today. I have to look after your little brother. Please run home as fast as possible, for Mimmy is around! Don't get distracted or you might get caught." Lian mumbled, "Does Mom like my little brother more than me?"

Lian felt sad and unimportant for the whole school day, wondering if his mother loved his little brother more than him. When the school bell rang, he set off to the forest to catch bugs, ignoring his mom's warning. When he bent down and found some bugs hiding in the grass, something nearby started to blink. Do you know what it was? It was Mimmy's antenna! She had been tracking Lian and was tip-toeing closer to him. Suddenly, Lian felt something tight wrapped around him. Mimmy chanted a magic spell to tie him up with the forest vines and carried him off happily.

Lian was so scared that he kept struggling against the vines, kicking and shouting as loudly as he could.

"HELP! HELP! Who are you? Let me go!" Lian's cries echoed through the forest.

Mimmy smiled sinisterly, "Do you think I will let you go easily? Hee hee hee hee..."

"It's Mimmy!" Lian thought in panic. He felt regretful remembering his mom's warning too late.

Meanwhile, Willy heard Lian shouting. Willy was a three-hundred-year-old wizard, with long white hair, a messy beard, small eyes and a big nose. Though he looked odd, he had a kind heart and often fought against evil.

Willy saw Lian getting caught, he quickly drank his freezing and invisible potions and secretly followed Mimmy when they passed by his home.

When he arrived at Mimmy's home, Willy carefully observed how she untied the forest vines binding Lian. He came up with a plan. Willy thought, "I think it's time to become visible." he hid behind Mimmy. Then – POW! – he used his "Tie and Untie" magic to grab the vines and tie her up instead. But Mimmy was clever. She chanted the same magic spell to untie herself!

"Do you think you can defeat me? You're in danger now!" Mimmy prepared to cast another powerful spell.

Just as Mimmy was about to attack, Lian remembered the giant Chinese bun his mother had made for him. He immediately grabbed it and stuck it into Mimmy's mouth before she could speak the spell. While she struggled to remove the bun, Willy tied her up again.

But escaping from Mimmy's home was not easy. The mist was thick. Lian began to panic. "How will we ever find our way out of here?"

Willy said, "Don't lose hope. The trees of The Lovely Forest are kind and magical. Let's ask for their help." Willy reached out to one of the trees and whispered, "Please help us find the way out."

The magical trees smiled, "Of course." Their branches lit up and pointed in the direction of the exit. The trees even moved their roots to clear their path.

"Thank you, trees! You've saved us!" Lian relaxed, feeling a strong sense of hope.

Back home, Lian's mom was waiting anxiously. "Lian!" cried his mom with lots of tears. She hugged him tightly. "Where have you been? I've been searching for you everywhere!"

Lian began to cry, too. "I'm so sorry, Mom! I thought you loved my little brother more than me. I disregarded your warning and didn't come straight home after school."

His mom wiped away his tears and spoke softly, "Lian, you are so special, valuable and unique to me, no matter what anyone says. I will always protect you. Never think you're not important. You are worth more than all the gold in the world. You are a true treasure to our family."

From that day on, Lian felt the love of his mom, his family and his new friend, Willy. He gained a strong confidence in being different, stayed alert, and never got distracted again when Mimmy was around. Lian learned that being unique was brilliant; it was a gift to be celebrated, not something to hide.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kau Yan School, Tong, Giann – 11*

Sonya Taven anxiously stepped off the plane, dragging her suitcase behind her. This was her first time in mainland China, and she was excited to finally see her friend Hou–Yang after many years.

Hou–Yang was Sonya’s childhood best friend. They used to be neighbors in Hong Kong and did everything together. But when Sonya’s father died in a ship accident when she was twelve, Sonya and her mother moved to New York. Sonya and Hou–Yang hadn't been in touch ever since.

Sonya recently received a letter from Hou–Yang inviting her to China to write about a new fossil discovery, so she set off right away. Sonya is a journalist, and she writes for the New York Times about international news.

Sonya grinned at her friend and partner, Alicia Puncer. She is a talented photographer and usually assists Sonya in her work. Many people said that she and Alicia look alike. They both had tanned skin and sky–blue eyes, except Sonya’s was deep blue in the middle.

They met Hou–Yang and his partner Wa–On Lee at the airport. They were both paleontologists, scientists who study dinosaur bones or fossils. Hou–Yang was the architect of a fossil search, and they currently found three dinosaur fossils these days. They welcomed the girls warmly and offered to take them to the site right away.

"Here," Hou–Yang said. Sonya got out of the car and looked around. They were in the middle of nowhere, a forest clearing with tools and flat stores lying about.

A path nearby led to a rocky beach. Hou–Yang led Sonya and Alicia to the beach, where they met several other coworkers. One of them, Khanis Laht, said that the two newly discovered fossils were of a Tuojiangosaurus and a Pterosaur. Then they showed Sonya and Alicia the fossils, which they kept in a shady spot away from the sun.

"It's to keep them in good condition while we continue looking for the missing parts of the fossils," Khanis explained. Alicia took a few photos while Sonya wrote notes and interviewed the other paleontologists. While Sonya and Alicia interviewed the other people. Hou–Yang, Wa–On, and Khanis discussed their plan.....

"We'll have to leave the nets around here or else they'll run away....." Wa–On suggested. "No," Hou–Yang said firmly, "If we leave it here they may see it." "So we'll just leave it in the forest?" Khanis asked. "Well—" "What are you guys talking about?" Alicia cut in, approaching them from behind. Alicia, having heard their strange conversation, told this to Sonya, and they both thought they were very suspicious. "I think they are plotting something they don't want us to know about!" Sonya concluded. A sudden shout of terror made everyone turn around.

"The Tuojiangosaurus fossil! It's ..... gone!!"

"Gone?" "It's disappeared!" Hou–Yang ordered everyone to take out their bags so they could search them for the dinosaur bones, but to no luck. "It's no use. We'll have to go search for it," Khanis said mysteriously. Wa–On took out a megaphone and started barking orders into it, "Everyone, DO NOT panic. Khanis, you stay here with Olinie and the others to guard the other fossils. Tavern, Puncer, Hou–Yang, and I will go to search for the Tuojiangosaurus."

Hou–Yang led Sonya, Alicia, and Wa–On back to the first clearing. "You have some explaining to do, Hou–Yang," Alicia said. "Why did you plan to leave nets around the site and then the fossil suddenly disappears?" She demanded. Hou–Yang sat down on a tree trunk and put his head in his hands. "Yes, we owe you an explanation," Hou–Yang sighed. Sonya sat next to him and Alicia crossed her arms. Wa–On said, "Actually, we think that the fossil is alive." "What?!" The girls gasped.



Turns out that when just-discovered dinosaur fossils come in direct contact with the afternoon sunlight, its glow will grant the dinosaur a "Second Life". When the sun's rays hit the fossil, warmth will spread to the fossil's every segment, allowing it to go back to life. Wa-On rubbed his hands together and said, "Unfortunately, the dinosaur has a mind of its own, so it would eventually wander off once it gets its life back." "It's not a tragedy..." Sonya started, "We can still look for it. It must be somewhere nearby..."

She caught sight of some bones on the ground....

"Wait....what's that?" The four of them followed the "Bone Trail" to a big meadow. Dinosaur bones were scattered everywhere. Suddenly, a dinosaur skeleton trudged past them and into the sunny meadow, causing the girls to scream and back away. There, the Tuojiangosaurus busied itself by munching on the lush greenery. Even though it was a skeleton, it seemed to be still able to eat. "Oh, and the "magic" wears off after a while. I never figured out how long, but it's estimated to be an hour," Wa-On added, "The Tuojiangosaurus was a herbivore, so it will cause us no harm."

They watched the gentle dinosaur munch on the leaves and plants and trudging around in silence. Alicia snapped photos while Sonya drew sketches of it in her notebook. After feasting on the foliage, the Tuojiangosaurus looked Sonya and Hou-Yang in the eye, nudged them gently then curled up and went to sleep, snoring slightly. Then, a faint yellow ray emitted from the sun and hit the Tuojiangosaurus with a ground-breaking boom.

"Well, that was fascinating," Sonya said, breaking the silence. "Yeah, a once-in-a-lifetime experience", Hou-Yang grinned. The four picked up the plates and spikes and the rest of the scattered bones and went back to the discovery site. No one knows what had occurred, except for the four of them.

"This would be an amazing tale for the New York Times, but I wouldn't spread this truth out or bad people will use this as an advantage to make a great dino army," Sonya said. Hou-Yang laughed a little at that thought.

"That would be terrible."

"But great," Sonya added.

# A Tale of China's Skeletal Dinosaur

*Kau Yan School, Wong, Kaitlyn Sum Yuet – 12*

*Knock! Knock!* “*Dr Chan, your mantou is here,*” Ming called out. Ming, a young food delivery boy, was delivering breakfast to Dr Chan, the head palaeontologist at the paleontological excavation site in Ganzhou in East China.

A few weeks earlier, while digging the ground to build new apartments, construction workers came across a bunch of bones. The workers first thought that they might have found human or animal bones in the ground. However, as they continued digging deeper and deeper, they realised that the bones were super long and very big. They turned out to be dinosaur bones! And, a team of palaeontologists, including Dr Chan, were called out to do some more digging. Dr Chan and his team found many more bones which made up about 40 percent of the dinosaur's skeleton.

Nobody answered when Ming called. So, he entered the excavation tent to look for Dr Chan and give him his food. While he was on his way to the excavation site, Ming had tripped on a rock and fell down. He scraped his leg and it was bleeding. As he was about to put Dr Chan's food on the table, Ming saw a first aid kit and reached for it. However, disaster struck and he accidentally knocked over a green, luminescent liquid. The gloopy liquid spilled all over the table drenching the newly found dinosaur fossils. The luminescent liquid instantly made the bones green.

At first, Ming didn't care that he had knocked over the liquid onto the fossils. He put Dr Chan's food on the floor and started to leave. It was only when he heard something crash that he stopped and looked back. Ming's jaw dropped – he couldn't believe his eyes. Right in front of him were the green dinosaur fossils. However, they were no longer scattered across the table. Instead, they were standing together in the shape of a monstrous skeletal dinosaur.

The monstrous skeleton began destroying everything. Ming screamed and without hesitation began to run. He ran out of the tent and shouted, “*Dinosaur on the loose! Dinosaur on the loose!*”

All of the palaeontologists outside looked dumbfounded and didn't believe Ming until a bunch of moving dinosaur fossils poked out of Dr Chan's tent. The palaeontologists ran with Ming while screaming to the rest of the people around the excavation site. As Dr Chan headed back to the excavation site to finish examining the fossilised bones, he was informed that there was a dinosaur on the loose. Confused, he quickly ran back to his tent to see what was happening and, to his surprise, all the bones that were on his table were missing. Instead, all he saw were the tipped over glass bottles that used to be filled with the luminescent green liquid. “*That can't be,*” Dr Chan thought to himself. “*That liquid is not supposed to bring fossilised bones back to life!*”

Finally, Dr Chan realised that the bones that he was trying to repair were the ones that had come to life. The monstrous skeletal dinosaur was destroying everything inside Dr Chan's tent. Dr Chan wanted to run away as the dinosaur started to come at him. However, he was too scared that he just froze. He couldn't do anything. It was like his legs were glued to the ground. The moving bones were getting closer and closer. Dr Chan was running out of time... *tick tock, tick tock*. Out of nowhere, he felt a hand grip his arm tightly and yank him out the way. It was Ming.

As Ming was escaping, he noticed that Dr Chan was not running away like everyone else, so he went back to try to find him.

“*Sssssrrrrrr, Dr Chan! I was the one who knocked over the liquid,*” apologised Ming. “*It was my fault, so I want to try help fix it.*”

Dr Chan quickly came back to his senses.

Ming suddenly remembered that he had a book about dinosaurs that his dinosaur-addict grandpa bought a long time ago. He thought it would be a good idea to bring the book to Dr Chan to see if the book would have any way to stop the dinosaur. Ming's house was just a few blocks away, so he decided to run as fast as he could back home to fetch the book for Dr Chan. After he got the book, he quickly headed back to the excavation site to help Dr Chan figure out how to make the dinosaur go back to its original fossilised form.

“*OH MY GOODNESS! You found the book that was lost a thousand years ago! This is the book that can solve any questions about dinosaurs!*” squealed Dr Chan, delightedly.

Together, Dr Chan and Ming carefully dug through the entire thousand-year-old book and finally found the chapter where they recorded all of the information about how to make a ‘come back to life’ dinosaur return back to fossils. Dr Chan and Ming were over the moon – until they realised that all of the materials that were needed for the experiment were inside the destroyed tent. Dr Chan and Ming were devastated as there was no way that they had time to get new materials before the skeletal dinosaur destroyed everything.

Ming was so angry that he threw the book on the floor and shouted hopelessly “ *Why!? Why!?*”

He didn’t know that what he did was about to change their lives. Something fell out of the book when it fell to the floor. Ming quickly went to see what it was. He found a tiny pendant wrapped in a plastic wrap. There were words written on the plastic wrap. They read: *press the ruby that is in the centre to activate the power inside.*

Together they pushed the ruby. A blinding bright red light filled the entire sky. When they finally opened their eyes, they saw a pile of dinosaur fossils lying on the floor. All was peaceful once again.

# The Sentinels of Time

*King's College Old Boys' Association Primary School, Sin, Margaret Zhuoying – 12*

Once, there was a place. Where creatures, big and small, roamed the lands, from steep slopes and craggy rocks, to vast lands, with deepening valleys and acclivities. Magnificent creatures with plants of every type, teeming with life. Among those wildlife, a few stood tall, with inquisitive eyes that never stopped exploring, followed by long pointy beaks. Long legs, rippling with power. And lastly, its most captivating part — pieces of cartilage lined with bone connected to the body, extending out into a spectacle of colored feathers, when it outstretched, it would show the dazzling structure of itself, it was nothing other than wings. Even though they would never be able to reach the sky, they thrived on land, nimbly twisting through small crevices and sharp turns, chasing down its prey with agility. These beings were of the land, the *Sinosauropteryx*.

Flying through the vast, blue horizon, with numerous feathers colored like a dark, thunderous sky, coated with heavy, ominous clouds, ranging various colors. Bolts of searing lightning shone a shocking bright white through the thick clouds, long, gnarled fingers tearing dents in the mighty sky. These creatures were the meteorites shooting through the sky, the rulers of flight. The sky was their domain. Not one being could question that. Its wings weren't like any other, growing from their bodies, alongside a pair of smaller ones connecting to their hind legs. Linking to their back, was a tail stretching out to scratch the sky, into lengths that could engulf other creatures. They were four-winged, with far-reached tails, each with blessings that could dominate the air— agility, flexibility, control, grace, and prowess. The Beings of Tianmu. The Changyuraptors.

Creatures treaded the land and soared through the sky. But what lurked in the waters below? Swimming silently in the water, with elegance and lithe. Using a flattened tail, they powered themselves forward in the water, swinging left and right. Their torso broadened, inside containing thick, massive ribs, inch by inch etched with the memories and past lives their ancestors passed down, to what they themselves have seen, smelled, heard, and touched. Numerous stories lay inside them. But as for who would uncover them, it was not up to them. Moving further on, they had necks that were unlike any other in the water... they were surely twenty thousand leagues under the sea. The ancient Loch Ness — the Hyphalosaurus.

These creatures lived in every nook and cranny, coexisting with each other. An intricate web of connections and relationships were between them, some modest and some intimate. A nodding of heads, perhaps some light chatting and the occasional gossip. Even though they may have not been close, they had a silent acknowledgement, a subtle respect, prey or predator. At the same time, they regarded their natural boundaries. There was no such thing as gluttony or hunger. These wise and insightful rules were implemented with the dedication of every creature. With this communal commitment, they succeeded in accomplishing their motive to carefully balance the ecosystem. This was to make sure that the world during that time was ample of resources, capable of allowing the future generations to flourish and prosper. These creatures had a certain kind of intellect, a kind that no other creature had or will have. The closing of the eyes, enveloping themselves in tranquility, in complete stillness. During that time, it was only their heart, their mind, and their soul. And so, they opened their ethereal eyes, the door behind the door. To another universe, where everything was vast and infinite, where a sky blue tint covered everything. Golden, wispy strands wafted gently in the air, each strand as fine and delicate as the other. A soft hue was dusted over the surroundings. These strings of gold were lucid, emitting a glow from within, so powerful yet so fragile. Each single one contained a happening in the future, a fragment of the life force of the world. A single touch, and the future would reverberate through your heart, mind, and soul. One could see the future with the blink of an eye, but it could reveal the horrors

to come. One day, they found out about their fate, clear as glass. That knowledge remained in the deepest depths of their heart. But still, they continued to live their lives to their heart's desire, coexist with one another without controversy, plan for the future and do for the future.

The *Sinosauropteryx*. They knew their fate, crystal clear. But never had they ever lost interest in the world, not even a single bit. Deep inside their heart, a fire burned bright, gleaming with curiosity. They were the disciples of Wenchang, the god of learning. The Changyuraptors. Even though these creatures were ones to fear, they could never be equal to Siming, the bringer of fate. In the end, power is never infinite. The Hyphalosaurus. The masters of the art of Kegū—carving bone. They would continue their art, saving every single memory for the future owners of their land to discover.

Humans, they were called, named these creatures as dinosaurs. It was a long time before humans existed. Those humans used to be a small population. But they never stopped growing. From homeless to caves, to wooden sheds to houses, to urban cities. The dinosaurs watched with emotion as they saw the humans develop into what they are now. No matter how long the period of time, the dinosaurs remained beneath the surface, watching from below their world. Their body was not there, but their soul still was. They received more and more recognition as the humans developed, watching what was left of their remains getting moved to places where humans gaped in awe. They watched humans pouring their heart into their work, carefully removing debris from their bones and digging deeper in the land and soil. The world of golden strings still existed, connecting the dinosaurs to the humans, passing down centuries of wisdom, an intangible link never severed, forever connected.

# Liaoning Saga: Arcturus and Antares

*King's College Old Boys' Association Primary School, Yep, Cyrus Kin Ting – 12*

Billions of years ago, amidst the Jurassic period, when dinosaurs thrived on Earth, our planet was a haven for them. Some dinosaurs lived under the deep icy waters, some lived in the green, wet and warm rainforests, some lived on the high, cold and dry plateaus and some lived in warm, flat and calming grasslands. When everything seemed serene, the worst struck.

Before long, an asteroid weighing about two quadrillion pounds struck the eastern side of Mexico, wreaking absolute havoc. It created a huge crater, stretching over 10 kilometres wide, unleashed a fireball 4000 kilometres in diameter and 10-meter-tall tsunamis that swept across the Atlantic Ocean. The only safe place on Earth was Liaoning, the northeast side of China. Millions of dinosaurs fled to the land, but most attempts were unsuccessful. The impact launched quintillions of dust and ash particles into the air, even breathing was difficult. The ashes and the dust in the air blocked all sunlight from entering Earth. Subsequently, the Earth plunged into its first ice age. One might consider this as the worst day in Earth's history, it marked the beginning of the tale of the two species.

During the ice age, chimpanzees evolved into a new species, named humans. They were also struggling from the damage caused by the asteroid. They found land in the northeast side of China, Liaoning, the territory dominated by the dinosaurs. Thousands of humans stood face-to-face with hundreds of dinosaurs, ready to clash in an intense battle. Then all of a sudden, a young lad came out of the crowd and shouted, 'Hey! Hey! Fighting is not the correct way to solve the problem, we will just end up hurting ourselves. We both moved here to survive from the damage caused by the asteroid. We should work together!' One of the dinosaurs, with green camo colour different from the others, replied with a loud roar, followed by the others. The junior was able to communicate with the camo-coloured dinosaur. Unity prevailed as they joined forces.

A decade passed, the young fellow named Arcturus became the leader of the community, alongside with the green-camo-coloured dinosaur Antares. Together, the community survived through the ice age, supporting each other. They even formed a community capital located in Shenyang, Liaoning. Dinosaurs and Humans worked together day and night to build their city. The humans mainly handled the city planning and design, while the dinosaurs undertook tasks that required strength. It was a vibrant, bustling city where millions of dinosaurs and humans thrived.

As another decade elapsed, Liaoning became the ultimate metropolis of the world, the city of innovation, technology, finance and trading. Skyscrapers reached up to the clouds, cars and streets catered to dinosaurs and humans. However, humans started getting addicted to using coal, oil, iron and lithium. They were exploiting the resources on Earth and emitting greenhouse gases. The dinosaurs were worried, witnessing their world crumbling down. The message swiftly reached Arcturus as Antares pleaded for conservation. However, Arcturus remained resolute, 'What has changed you, Antares? After all these years building my perfect city, you are asking me to cease?' Arcturus had never been this brusque with Antares. With conflicting viewpoints, their leadership and friendship began to erode.

The following week, millions of dinosaurs gathered and raided the city of Liaoning, crushing down every man-made structure. Arcturus, consumed by anger, vowed to take down the dinosaurs. He ordered the entire army, equipped with the most advanced tools to eradicate the dinosaurs. They all came to a face-to-face standoff just like

20 years ago in the center of Liaoning. Arcturus locked eyes with Antares with fury, betrayal and disappointment in the air.

The fiercest combat. Humans unleashed their solar-powered rail gun, inflicting severe burns on the dinosaurs; the dinosaurs retaliated with devastating shockwaves by stomping on the ground. Humans deployed their kamikaze drones, strapping onto dinosaurs, detonating in an explosion. The dinosaurs fed on the humans with their sharp teeth one by one, shredding them into pieces. Distant screams, explosions, collapsing structures and thunderous roars were constantly heard. Gore of dinosaurs and human bodies could be seen everywhere, some torn apart, some split in half and some beheaded. Arcturus and Antares were killed in the scene. It was the fall of Liaoning.

As the dust settled over the ruins, there were whispers of a new beginning. What wonders await us amidst further discoveries on this land?

# China's New Dinosaur!

*Korean International School, Chow, Chelsea Ho Nam – 9*

In China in 2024 a young boy named Jack loves dinosaurs and he already starts digging for fossils. One day when he was 7 walking around the beach with his parents, Jack immediately started looking around for dinosaur fossils. After an hour of walking and playing with sand he stepped on something as hard as rock. He sat down and used his tools to try and dig the suspected fossil out of the ground. He picked it up and went back home to find out if it was a fossil or just a triangle-shaped piece of rock. He was in his bedroom using his laptop to find out if his discovery was really a fossil. He spent the whole day researching but didn't find anything useful. The next day Jack and his parents went to his nearby dinosaur museum to ask the staff for some tips to find out if it was a real fossil. The moment he entered the museum everyone started to scream! 'What's the matter?' asked Jack. One of the staff ran to Jack and said 'You found a T-rex tooth!' she screamed. 'What's your name?' asked the staff. 'My name is Jack,' said Jack. The staff said that she will pay Jack a million dollars if he gave her the fossil but unexpectedly Jack rejected her offer. He said to the staff that he doesn't want to be rich he just wants to be happy with his new fossil. With that Jack went home and just fell asleep it was a really long and exciting day for him. The next day Jack had to go to the world record studio with his parents. He wondered why. He was still so tired. When he and his parents arrived Jack found out that he held a world record for youngest person to find a dinosaur fossil. He had to take pictures with the chief to put in the world record book for 2024. When Jack was back home he immediately asked his parents to bring him to their nearby bookstore. Jack wanted to find the world record book of 2024. When he and his parents arrived Jack started looking around for the world record book. When he found it he begged his parents to buy the book for him. His parents agreed to buy the book for Jack. The book was too long for Jack to read at the bookstore so his parents had to buy it. When he was back home Jack rushed to his bedroom to read his world record book. A few minutes into the book, Jack saw his picture in the book then he rushed to the living room to show his parents but Jack couldn't find them. Jack went back in his bedroom and put a piece of memo in the page where he found his picture. Jack kept reading his world record book. A few moments later someone was ringing the bell. Jack ran out of his bedroom and opened the door. It was his parents! It turns out that his parents had bought him a special case to put his special fossil in. Jack thanked his parents, took the case then ran to his bedroom. He quickly and gently put the fossil in the case. His parents also bought Jack a lock for his special case. Jack took the lock and set the password to make sure no one stole his precious fossil. The next day Jack's room was filled with dust! Jack wondered why his room was filled with dust. Then he figured out that the dust was coming from his fossil. After giving the fossil a quick and gentle clean Jack went to the living room for breakfast. After that he went to his bedroom and cleaned the floor and walls, after that Jack lived happily ever after.



# D.I.N.O

*Korean International School, Leung, Jasper Ching Lai – 10*

Once upon a time, there was a land before time, home to dinosaurs called Dazzling, Incredible, Nacho, Oasis, or D.I.N.O for short. Suddenly, a massive meteor hit the Earth and killed all the dinosaurs. They went extinct, and none were left alive.

Fast forward to present day: in a museum, our protagonist Noah was looking at dinosaur fossils. He and his friends, Oliver and George, were discussing them. Oliver, being competitive as always, said, "I bet you cannot name this dinosaur before me." George chimed in, "I can name it faster than you!" Noah, having been standing there, declared, "It's a Stegosaurus." Oliver and George looked at him and said, "You win again!" Noah laughed, saying it was the hundredth time he had won. However, Oliver found something unusual on the Stegosaurus's skull: a citrine that looked different from any egg he had seen. George and Noah looked at it, but suddenly the citrine was no longer there. The museum was closing, so they had to go home, but little did they know that the citrine was inside Noah's pocket.

The next day, Noah found the egg in his pocket, grabbed a glass container, and put it inside. He went to school, leaving the egg alone. When he entered the school, Oliver and George approached him, asking, "Where have you been? Two lessons have already passed!" Noah realized he hadn't checked the time but still had to go to his next history class. The teacher, Mr. Barnacle, explained that a long time ago, before the dinosaurs age, there were creatures called Wardens that were considered as a myth. There were three kinds of them, the first being mythical beings, Mr. Barnacle said. When class was over, Noah told Oliver and George that he still had the gem. After school, they all went to Noah's house to check on it.

## A New Creature

When they entered Noah's room to check the gem, it was not there. Instead, a celestial creature with a godlike aura appeared. They were surprised, and then the creature's tummy began to rumble; they realized it was hungry. However, they did not know what to feed it, and the creature's head turned towards the cookies in Noah's pocket. Noah realized this and fed the beast. While the creature was eating, Noah, Oliver, and George wanted to name it. After some discussions, they all agreed to call him Sparke. The next day, Sparke had grown a lot; he was now the same size as a dinosaur leg bone. Then Noah, Oliver, and George went to the museum again, but this time Oliver was able to guess faster than Noah for the first time. They checked on Sparke, who was just sleeping, so they went home. The very next day, Sparke found a gem in the backyard and ate it, not knowing what it was. When he ate it, fire breathed out of his mouth. He wanted to show Noah, but he was at school, so Sparke broke the fence in the backyard and headed to Spring Field Academy where Noah was.

## The Big Accident

The next day they went to school, Noah heard loud footsteps outside and quickly realized what was going on. He told Oliver and George, and they rushed outside to see Sparke. He was happy to see them and showed off his new fire-breathing power. However, a secret agency appeared from nowhere and started pointing guns at Sparke. Frightened, Sparke unleashed a powerful wave that knocked the agents out. Noah, Oliver, and George were astonished by Sparke's strength. After using all his power, Sparke was nearly out of energy, and the friends had to act quickly before the agents woke up. Oliver had an idea; he found a tow truck and loaded Sparke onto it. Oliver started driving, Noah and George were stunned by how well he could drive. They asked him how he learned, and he replied, "I learned when I was playing Mario Kart." The agents woke up and reported to their boss that the creature had escaped. The boss ordered, "Get that creature no matter what; I need the energy to power my destruction ray." In the meantime, Noah guided them to the basement where his dad, a scientist, kept some weapons and an instruction manual therein.

### The Big Fight

They practiced using the weapons for a while and felt ready. They got in the truck and returned to school to confront the agents, who had something prepared. It looked like some kind of goo that was moving around uncontrollably in a tank. The boss opened the tank, and the goo touched him, merging into one piece. He formed weapons with his hands and tentacles that protruded from his back. He charged at them, but they were ready to protect Sparke. The boss shot a barrage of arrows behind him. Sparke jumped in the way to shield them from the arrows. He was not wounded, for some reason, but was still knocked back. They lunged at the boss. Noah activated his lightsaber and swung it so fast. It seemed like he didn't even move. Then Sparke launched a fireball at the boss, he dodged and fired back. After rounds of fights, Sparkle successfully defeated him. They celebrated and then had to unmask the man. They could hardly believe their eyes; Mr. Barnacle had planned to catch the last creature he needed—Sparke!

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Chan, Yat Chun – 12*

Once upon a time, in a small village nestled among the misty mountains of China, a curious Primary 6 student named Mei embarked on a thrilling adventure that would uncover new tales of China's dinosaurs.

Mei had always been fascinated by dinosaurs—those ancient creatures that once roamed the Earth millions of years ago. Armed with a vivid imagination and a thirst for discovery, she spent her days poring over books and dreaming of the day she would encounter a real dinosaur fossil.

One bright and sunny afternoon, her class went on a field trip to a dinosaur dig site not far from their school. When they got there, the air was buzzing with excitement, and her heart was pounding with anticipation. The site was bustling with activity, as scientists gently brushed away dirt to uncover the fossils of dinosaurs that lived long ago.

Curious, she walked up to Dr Chen, a friendly palaeontologist who saw how interested she was and asked if she wanted to help with the dig. Her eyes widened with excitement, and she quickly said yes, putting on a small hard hat and holding a tiny brush in her hand. Working alongside Dr Chen and the team, she carefully uncovered a collection of dinosaur bones. Her eyes sparkled with amazement as she revealed each piece, feeling like she was traveling back in time and discovering a world that had long been forgotten.

As the sun started to go down, painting the excavation site in a beautiful golden light, she stumbled upon an incredible discovery—a group of small dinosaur footprints trapped in ancient mud. Dr Chen shared that these footprints were from a baby dinosaur, a rare find that could teach us more about how these ancient creatures lived.

Feeling happy and thrilled, she understood that she was now part of something extraordinary—a quest of exploring and learning that would forever stay in her heart.

From that day on, Mei's passion for dinosaurs only grew stronger. She spent her evenings sketching dinosaurs in her notebook, imagining the world they once inhabited and the stories they had to tell.

And as she drifted off to sleep each night, beneath a sky filled with twinkling stars, Mei knew that she had embarked on a grand adventure—one that would lead her to uncover new tales of China's dinosaurs and inspire her to continue exploring the wonders of the world around her.

And so, in the quiet village among the misty mountains of China, a young girl named Mei began a journey of discovery that would shape her life forever—a journey filled with dinosaurs, dreams, and endless possibilities.

# The Soul that Hunts Again

Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Cheng, Ceron – 10

*100 million years ago ...*

*I'm a Velociraptor, a feathered, bipedal dinosaur with a long, upturned snout. Normally, I was a predator. But today, I was prey. I ran in terror. A humongous thing was chasing after me! Soil was flying up in accordance with the beast's footsteps. Its feet were thundering behind me. Dread rushed up my chest. I tripped. Cold, bloody teeth bit into my neck, puncturing it. The ground blurred and rushed up against me, making my eyelids flutter and slam shut. Darkness consumed me, sending me to the endless dark void.*

## UNKNOWN DATE (????)

Though my eyes are open I can't think of why, my heart is pounding, mind empty. It's as if a heap of adrenaline has been emptied into my brain. The image of my "death" still resonates in my mind, like an image burnt in my mind. My neck throbbed in pain. The injuries were still on my body.

*I... remember...* The raging river of reminiscence flows through my mind, creating chaos. *I... died...?* My leg muscles flexed, trying to lift my stiff body. Groaning in pain, I looked around. The clear blue sky hovered above me, shadows of creatures flew in the sky, mocking me of my once endless freedom. A thing with wings landed on my head. I twisted my head. The first thing I saw was a vicious beak, a harsh reality to pierce my vibrant dream. It had enormous wings, whose feathers were a tapestry of textures, from the silkiness of its undercoat to its oil-slicked outer quills. Flying away, it spread its majestic arms of aviation, tilting it to the warm air currents lifting it effortlessly into the sky.

The sun painted the sky in hues of orange and pink, creating a kaleidoscope glinting off the creature's lustrous feathers. Its caws rang in the air, marking the end of the day, inviting the darkness... The world could wait for tomorrow.

*\*Yawn\** *Where am I?* I struggled to recall the shocking events that just happened like yesterday to my befuddled brain. *What do I do now?* I stumbled around. Grass and trees stretched out into the far distance. *I... was lost.* I staggered around once more. I begged to find someone familiar. *But no. No one was here.* I was alone, a dinosaur out of nowhere. There was no life, except for the stupid creatures in the sky.

I wanted my home. I gritted my teeth, vowing to give everything to this mission, and walked into the horizon.

I galloped through the forest, searching for any form of life. Just when I was going to give up on my seemingly impossible dream, I saw a monster. It growled as its two shining white eyes beamed on me. It had a cage for its body, with round rubber rings for legs. Its head was boxy. Suddenly, a movement in the corner of my eyes distracted me from marveling at the creature. A two-legged being with long arms jumped out of the creature's belly. I snarled at it as it took a long, hollow cylinder out. It had a dark handle, with a lever attached to the bottom of the chunk of soulless, ugly metal weighing in its hand, an embodiment of pain. The being gestured at me, telling me to come. My heart beat in fear – *What would it do to me?* I began to run in the opposite direction, hoping to escape this horrible conspiracy. My heart thudded as a small projectile hit me. The last thing I knew was that it was walking towards me before darkness consumed me.

I awoke from a haze and opened my eyes. I... was in some kind of room. I felt the pressure of restraints on my body, tying me to a metal table. My keen eyes surveyed the unusual surroundings. Large steel tables surrounded me, filled with slick

modern machines with long twisting wires within. Small glass containers gleamed under fluorescent lights on an enormous shelf. Every now and then, a sharp beep or hiss would pierce the air, sending shivers down my spine.

My small tail thumped against the table, making resistance to the tight metal bounds, rattling the instruments nearby, as I struggled to comprehend why I was here. A group of the two-legs from before approached, wielding shiny metallic devices that glimmered ominously. Their incomprehensible chatter filled the air as they approached with syringes. Each plunge seemed to amplify my struggles, while my weak limbs strained against the restraints, desperately seeking freedom.

They took knives out of cupboards. As the knife met my neck, A shrill cry erupted from my throat, cutting through the sterile silence like a knife, echoing the rage and sorrow of a creature thrust into an unimaginable torture. They used sharp needles to sew the cut back together. As time went by, I slowly nodded off.

Suddenly, a bright light shattered my sleep. I squinted, trying to see who it was. A researcher walked in the room. There was a gentleness in his demeanor as he reached toward my bindings. He didn't seem threatening. I felt a flicker of hope: maybe he wasn't here to hurt me. I watched him in silence as he loosened the ropes. As the last rope fell away, I slowly stood up, feeling the power in my legs once again.

With a quick jerk of his head, he beckoned me to follow him. I somehow felt that my injuries had... healed. He bolted forward, while my nimble figure darted behind.

After an eternity, I finally escaped into the sunlight. The light warmed my feathers, yet also warmed my heart. Together, we leaped into the stomach of one of the monstrous vehicles I had seen before.

After stepping out of the monster, I saw the ferns dotting the sandy desert. I saw the towering mountains and rolling landscape. It was the Gobi desert — it was my home!

As I stood in the familiar sunlight, the researcher faded into the distance.

# Dinosaur Dream Comes True

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Cheung, Hoi Kiu – 10*

Ben was a ten-year-old boy living in Shanghai, a beautiful city in China. His hobbies included playing computer games and collecting dinosaur figures. His favourite movie was Jurassic Park.

One day, he woke up feeling different. After stretching his arms, he noticed he was dressed like a palaeontologist! He jumped out of bed and ran to the mirror. His hair was as messy as usual, but now he had a badge that said "Palaeontologist". Ben loved dinosaurs more than anything else. He enjoyed reading books about them and dreamed of discovering a new species.

Today felt like his dream was coming true. He was so excited. He skipped breakfast and grabbed his backpack after washing his face and brushing his teeth. When he opened the door, his backyard looked like a huge, ancient land. The tall grass felt like a jungle. As he walked around, he found a strange rock that looked different from any he had seen before. Carefully brushing away the dirt, he discovered that the rock had a shape like a dinosaur claw! Instantly, Ben took out a pen and a piece of paper to draw. "This could be something incredible!" he thought. He recalled the new species of titanosaur discovered in Jiangxi, China. "What if there are more in China?" he whispered.

Determined to find out, Ben cautiously dug around that area, feeling as though he was uncovering a treasure. After a while, he unearthed another piece of large, curved, smooth bone! He could hardly believe it. "It could be a dinosaur bone too!" Ben thought. Suddenly, he looked up to see his teacher, Mr. Yeung, standing next to him. Mr. Yeung loved to tell stories about dinosaurs. "Ben, it's good to see you here! What have you found?" he asked. "I think I found dinosaur bones!" Ben replied excitedly. "Let me see!" Mr. Yeung said, examining the bones closely. "This is amazing, Ben! You might have discovered something special! We have to find other palaeontologists and scientists to examine them." said Mr. Yeung.

Together, Ben and Mr. Yeung walked to a local fossil research center. When they arrived the center, Ben approached a friendly palaeontologist named Dr. Wong. "Excuse me, Sir." he said, his voice shaking with excitement. "I found these bones in my backyard, and I think they could be the bone of a new dinosaur species!" Dr. Wong examined the bones seriously. After a moment, he looked at Ben and said, "This is incredible! You might have discovered a new species. We need to study them further!" Ben was delighted. He and Mr. Yeung spent the whole day with Dr. Wong and the team, learning about fossils and dinosaurs.

That night, Mr. Yeung escorted Ben home safely. After a shower, Ben lay in bed, smiling as he thought about dinosaurs, fossils, and his next great adventure. Ben didn't want to fall asleep, afraid that today's unbelievable adventure might have been just a dream.

# The Mystery of Faith

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Chow, Sze Chai Jonathan – 10*

Today, when I was on my way to my office, as usual, and picking up the daily news, something unusual caught my attention. “Five years on from the quake. Locals celebrate re-opening of destroyed temple,” the headlines read, which brought my memories back to the decision to keep my discovery a secret, forever.

It was just days before the Chinese New Year, in 2026, when everybody’s gone crazy preparing for the feasts and reunion dinners, some rushing back from the cities to their hometowns. It was the most joyous time for the Chinese people. But when everyone was in the festive mood, a breaking news haunted all – the biggest ever earthquake hit a rural area in Hubei, claiming lives of hundreds of thousands and devastating their homes, schools, roads, bridges and many old buildings alike. I felt so sorry for the people there but could only keep my fingers-crossed.

As an archaeologist, I have been spending the whole year working at sites far from downtown. I too was about to return home to join my family for holiday. But I received a call from my boss, supposed to bid farewell to me before I left for my home. “What?” I uttered, surprisingly. “That would be the biggest discovery ever!” “I will cancel my vacation and head to Hubei this afternoon.”

On my way to Hubei, my boss briefed me what I was supposed to do. The earthquake caused landslides of the rural areas in Hubei, exposing peculiar rocks and probably remains of dinosaurs or other kinds of prehistoric creatures. Yet as series of aftershocks might follow, we had to hit there immediately before it became too late.

Upon arrival at the village, I couldn’t hear any fire crackers or joyful celebration among the people, but only those burying faces in the palms of their hands, or hysterically searching their loved ones. Fallen homes were all around the place, with torn red couplets, bearing blessings like “Peace to the whole family”, scattered on the ground, still freshly inked.

In front of me was another toppled structure, but unlike the others, ten or twenty old ladies gathered around and burnt incense sticks, worshipping. I approached them and asked the most senior one, “What’re you doing here?”. The lady mumbled, “We’re praying to the nine-headed bird, our protector, to save us from these perils.” I read about the nine-headed bird from the Classics of Mountains and Seas, but to me, this creature (if could be so named) was only mythical. “You better evacuate to the shelter or the aftershock will kill you all. There’s no such thing as a ‘nine-headed bird’”, I warned the ladies, whole-heartedly. Their faces went red, though and went like, “Our ancestors had witnessed IT. A nine-headed bird came from the heaven like a fireball, and it became a statue on the hill. Our ancestors built a temple to worship IT. If you don’t know a thing, you better go home!” I knew I couldn’t argue with them, so I rushed to the site, the small hill just behind the stripped “sanctuary”.

The vegetation had gone, the surface chipped, the roof a wreck, it was as if an atomic bomb had landed smack on the hill. But the place to receive the most damage of all in the temple was the centre spot, the place where the gigantic statue of the nine-headed bird once stood. There was a large gaping hole where the surface was supposed to be.

What the landslide unearthed was some kind of stone which couldn’t be found on earth, but outer space. I reckoned it was a meteorite, a massive one in fact. Going deeper was something more astonishing – fossils, a lot of fossils, but none were belonging to any other earthly creatures we could ever find on the textbooks or encyclopedia. “What?” I almost cried out aloud, “Nine-headed ... birds, is it for real?” I almost couldn’t stand on my own feet, pondering for some moments.

Just as I was about to go deeper into the site, aiming to dig out some fossils for my lab, the loose soil started to wobble again, I felt the risk of staying there for longer. I was left with no choice but to run away at once. I leapt over

rocks and sprinted away to the nearest shelter I could find and remained there until the aftershocks died down. Days later when I went back to the site with the miraculous discovery of the mystical creature, the hill was already covered with mud again. To take a closer look at the fossils required machinery like bulldozers and excavators, which however had run for the search of lives.

A crazy yet probable theory came to my head – nine-headed birds, maybe some kind of a dinosaur, did exist and became fossils and buried under the hills. The meteorite hit the area thousands of years ago, exposing some fossils of the nine-headed birds. That's why the folks witnessed a fireball from the sky with statue of the bird found and worshipped for generations.

With bare hands, I couldn't go on with my search. But I remained in the villages for the next couple of weeks, supporting the locals to evacuate to the shelters, waiting for rescue.

On the way, I bumped into the bird worshippers again. Although sadness could still be seen in their eyes, their faith in their protector continued to support them through the time of grief and hardship. They supported each other by sharing everything they had in their makeshift tents, awaiting their better homes, and future, to be rebuilt.

When I was about to leave the village, I decided to keep my discovery to myself. As I can now see from the happy faces on the photos showing the villagers celebrating the re-opening of the perpetual home of their protector, I know that there is something more powerful than the truth, which should be kept underground, for good.



# The Battle for Harmony

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Choy, Yee Ni – 10*

Once upon a time, there was a great scientist in China invented a time machine and it suddenly got in a crazy mode and caught a Tyrannosaur accidentally! The Tyrannosaur got crazy immediately and killed a lot of people in China! After Japan, the UK, the USA and Canada knew it, they all called their soldiers to help China to kill the Tyrannosaur, but sadly they failed. The Tyrannosaur was angry that the soldiers hurt its legs so it ate all of the soldiers!

In another universe, the elegant princess unicorn Sakura and the charismatic prince dragon Solar from Unigon Planet, where all unicorns were female and all dragons were male, were trying to find the way to stop Creeper, the Tyrannosaur that was their pet and was originally putting in the Cretaceous period of the Earth.

‘Our little pet, Creeper disappeared. What should we do now?’ Asked Solar. ‘Using my power, I can see that it was taken by a time machine from the Cretaceous period to the ancient China on the Earth. Let’s go. We have to rescue it.’ Sakura replied.

Sakura opened a door that can go to the Earth in a minute.

‘Roarr!’ Growled Creeper angrily. ‘Ahhhh!’ Pitched the humans. ‘Stop!’ Yelled Solar. Sakura and Solar tried to use their powers to rescue Creeper. ‘Arebrek!’ Sakura cast a spell. ‘Ailgretle!’ Solar cast a spell too. A colourful light shone from their necklace’s diamond. But when they tried to take back Creeper to the past, Creeper struggled and destroyed the light!

‘Oh no!’ Solar and Sakura murmured. ‘Roarr!’ Creeper was so furious. It ate a lot of humans and became stronger! ‘Let’s go back Sakura!’ Solar suggested.

They soon went back to Unigon Planet to find the queen and the king to ask for help. ‘Mum,’ asked Sakura, ‘What should I do now?’ Solar added, ‘Our power isn’t enough! Can mum and dad help us?’ Sakura and Solar’s gorgeous mum Nicole and handsome dad Fire said very slowly, ‘We are so sorry, my great girl and boy...’ ‘No worries. We will find another way to catch Creeper!’ Sakura and Solar thanked and left.

At the great night, Fire muttered ‘Maybe they can go there to find them...’

On the next day, when Sakura and Solar were about to leave. Nicole and Fire came to ask, ‘Where are you two little ones going to?’ Sakura and Solar replied, ‘Of course going to fight with Creeper again!’ Fire said, ‘Your power isn’t enough. I have a great idea for you two. Follow me!’

Soon, Fire took Sakura and Solar to a Super Transporter. ‘What do you want to do, dad?’ Asked Sakura. ‘Look...I will transport you two to Pokéland Planet to find the great buddies for help.’ Fire said.

‘Testing...testing...do you two hear me?’ asked Fire. ‘We hear dad!’ Sakura and Solar replied, ‘It’s starting to transport you two. Three, two, one.’ Called Fire. ‘Ka boom!’ The transporter made a loud boom sound. Sakura and Solar were flying to Pokéland Planet now!

ONE DAY LATER, when the transporter arrived Pokéland Planet. It was already midnight.

‘Arghhh! It almost 1:00 a.m.! Solar, we have a lot of things to do! Hurry up!’ yelled Sakura. ‘Coming! Wait for me!’ replied Solar.

All of a sudden, they heard someone growling. It was Koraidon! ‘Why you two little fools are here in the midnight? Are you going to steal something or what? Tell me now!’ Growled Koraidon. ‘Er...er...we just want to find the great buddies.’ Solar replied. ‘Go away. I will not let you find my great kings and queens.’ Koraidon said. ‘OK!’ Sakura and Solar said disappointedly.

When Sakura and Solar were about to leave, someone called out, ‘Wait!’ It was the great buddies! ‘I am so Sorry. Our Koraidon chased you away and it’s too rude!’ The leader of the buddies, Terapagos said. ‘Let’s introduce ourselves! Well, I am Terapagos. This guy wearing mask is Ogerpon. This guy wearing golden armor called Armorouge.

This cat is Meawscarada. These twin dragons are Latias and Latios.’ Terapagos said. ‘I am Sakura and he is Solar. Nice to meet you all!’ Sakura smiled. “Nice to meet you too. So why you two come here to find us?’ Terapagos asked. ‘Mmm...because our Tryannosaur, Creeper went to a wrong place and killed a lot of people there. We can’t stop it so we need your help.’ Solar explained. ‘Oh no! We need to help them, bro!’ Terapagos yelled. ‘Of course!’ answered the others.

‘So, is Creeper there? Terapagos asked, pointing to China. ‘Yes.’ Replied Sakura. ‘OK. Come on, bro!’ Yelled Terapagos. ‘Yes!’ Cheered the others. They all jumped out from the transporter.

‘Let’s attack it, guys! Thunder Bolt!’ Yelled Terapagos. The others used their moves too.

‘Roarr!’ Creeper roared. ‘Too bad. Sakura!’ Terapagos called out and then threw a ball to Sakura. ‘What’s that?’ Asked Sakura. ‘It’s a Tera Orb. Throw this to make us Terastallize! Come on guys, do that pose!’ Yelled Terapagos. ‘OK!’ said the others.

The great buddies rounded into a circle and yelled, ‘Throw the Tera Orb now, Sakura!’ “OK. Here I go!’ Replied Sakura, throwing the Tera Orb. ‘Terastallize!’ Yelled the buddies. ‘Stellar type!’ Said Terapagos. ‘Grass type!’ Yelled Ogerpon and Meawscarada. ‘Fire type!’ Growled Armourouge. ‘Dragon type!’ Said the twins.

‘Wow...they look as beautiful as crystal!’ Muttered Sakura. ‘What are you looking?’ Hurry up, guys! Let this stupid thing calm down! Tera Starstorm!’ Yelled Terapagos. ‘Ivy Cudgel!’ Growled Ogerpon. ‘Armor Canon!’ Said Armourouge. “Mist Ball!’ Yelled Latias. “Luster Purge!’ Growled latios. “Flower Trick!’ Said Meawscarada.

‘Roarr!’ Creeper roared in pain. ‘It’s a chance!’ Called the great buddies. ‘OK! Rainbow Beam!’ Yelled Sakura. ‘Solar Beam!’ Growled Solar.

Just then, Creeper disappeared! ‘Hooray!’ Cheered the humans. “Now Creeper went back to the past. It’s time for us to go home.’ Said the great buddies. ‘Thank you so much for your great help! Bye—bye!’ Sakura and Solar replied excitedly.

Then, the Pokéland, the Earth and the Unigon Planet lived happily ever after together.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Chu, Long Yan Coleman – 11*

“Have you ever wondered what China’s dinosaurs were like? Let me tell you a little history about the dinosaurs of China. There were 59 kinds of dinosaur fossils found in China. For example, the tiniest dinosaur that was found in China was Minisauripus and the largest one is Mamenchisaurus. In late October 2024, there was new dinosaur bone fossils found in Hong Kong for the first time. Experts believe they were from the Cretaceous period, about 145 million to 66 million years ago. Oh sorry, I forgot to introduce myself. I am the time traveller, Ming, from the New Tales of China Travel Agency. I will lead you to the New Tales of China’s Dinosaurs Era and create an exciting and unforgettable travel experience for you. Let’s go find some dinosaurs! Come on! Hop into my time machine! Weeeeeee!”

“Hello everybody, we have arrived at our first spot – the Cretaceous period of Liaoning. It is located in northeastern China. “Hey, look to your left side!” You can see a weird kind of dinosaur –the Confuciusornis. It is an extraordinary bird-like dinosaur, about 0.3 meters tall. By looking at it, you may think that it is a tame little dinosaur. However, it is surprisingly dangerous. It is a carnivorous animal. When it comes to hunting down a prey, it is a “beast”. With its large claws on the forelimbs, it can catch its prey like lifting a finger.”

“Look to your right! This is one of the classic dinosaurs that are found in China – the Sinosauropteryx! It is the first dinosaur fossil that was found in China in 1996. It lived in the early Cretaceous period, about 140 million to 145 million years ago. Sinosauropteryx are very small, about 10% of a human’s height. It is famous for its short arms, large thumbs and its very long tail. It is very small so a lot of people mistake it as a herbivore. Actually it is a carnivore, same as the Confuciusornis! Oh no, the Sinosauropteryx has spotted us! We have to run quickly, we have become its target!”

“Phew! We’re safe! Now we are on the eastern coast of China – Shandong.” “Hey! Look at that gigantic dinosaur! It looks like it is going to eat us!” said one of the explorers. “Don’t worry. This dinosaur is called Shantungosaurus.” It is one of the largest herbivorous dinosaurs in the entire world. It is also almost as large as a skyscraper. Like all Hadrosaurus, its beak is toothless, but its jaws were packed with a round 1500 tiny chewing teeth. Oh no! It is turning around! Prepare for a wild ride, because its colossal tail is going to hit us, ahhhhhhhh!”

“Ahhh, we landed in northern China, the Cretaceous period of Mongolia.” “That dinosaur looks so scary and it is chewing up a piece of meat!” one of the kids screamed. “Don’t worry. It will not notice you with their poor vision and smell from this distance. It looks like a Tyrannosaurus (T-Rex) but actually it’s called a Tarbosaurus, in Greek words it means “alarming lizard”. It is a huge carnivore at least 10 meters tall. It has a unique locking mechanism in its jaws, with about 60 gigantic teeth and the smallest arms relative to the body sizes of Tyrannosaurids. Although it has small arms, with its extremely strong legs and muscles, it can catch up with prey that runs much faster than them.” “Oh no, Tarbosaurus is going crazy, like it is going on a rampage. Everyone is told to escape and jump back into the Time Machine.” said an explorer.” “Weeeeeee!”

“Welcome back to the real world! Isn’t it an informative and exhilarating adventure? I hope all of you enjoyed this magical journey of the New Tales of China's Dinosaurs Era though we are still frightened by the Tarbosaurus.” “Yeah, it is an amazing tour,” a little boy holding a piece of Tarbosaurus’s scale in his hand exclaimed. All of us were in shock. We suddenly realized why the Tarbosaurus was agitated. The little boy explained “I took a piece of the scale from its tail and wanted to prove that a dinosaur is a reptile with hard and dry scales to my friends and teachers.” There is nothing we can do now. The scale will be the next discovery of dinosaur remains in the near future.

“Well, this tour of the New Tales of China’s Dinosaurs Era is coming to a close. If you want to know more about China's dinosaurs, you can enter my next enchanted tour. Remember I am the time traveller, Ming, from the New Tales of China Travel Agency. Bye!”

# Back to the Mesozoic Era

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Ding, Ka Chun Marcus – 10*

“Ah! What a stupendous morning.” Jack the Dinosaur Tracker exclaimed. Jack was famous in researching dinosaurs. He has discovered a *Triceratops* fossil from a desert in Xinjiang, which is very extraordinary intriguing.

Jack then without hesitation, went right to work. “Clank”, his shovel hit against some metal. “What could it be?” he wondered. He tried to dig it out but it was stuck, and sweat was rolling down his red cheeks after a hard pull. However, Jack with perseverance, continued to dig and dig, deeper and deeper, moving his shovel left and right, up and down.

Suddenly, he heard a whirring sound, and he found himself in a rainbow-colored dome, as his eyes raised towards the sky, “Whoosh!” a hole appeared in the sky! The hole grew bigger and bigger, and transformed into a tunnel. Then, Jack was sucked into the tunnel. He felt very dizzy and fell unconscious.

When he came to, he found himself in a wild forest with towering trees staring at him. “Where am I?” he asked himself. “Where can I be? What is this place? How did I get here?!” he wondered. This was the first time he was carried away, while doing his research, so he was extremely nervous and decided to be cautious. He explored the forest with great curiosity. After a while, he found some strange eggs. They were larger than any egg he had ever seen. He took a closer look at them and picked up one to examine it closely.

Suddenly, he heard a thundering roar. It was a *Xinjiangovenator*, stomping its feet in warning as it approached. Its gaze was fixed on the egg in Jack’s hands. This sight immediately angered it as it thought Jack was an egg-stealer. Jack was terrified at the furious look of the *Xinjiangovenator* but put the egg down gently before fleeing away quickly.

The *Xinjiangovenator* chased after him, grabbed him and was about to swallow him alive. Then, out of nowhere, a tremendous ferocious roar was heard. The roar came from a *Yutyranus* from a short distance away. The roar scared the *Xinjiangovenator* away, and it dropped Jack to the ground. Jack took the chance to take some photos of both of the dinosaurs. Boom! Boom! The *Yutyranus* stomped towards Jack, thinking he was the prey of the *Xinjiangovenator*. Jack screamed, ran for his life. He stumbled on a bush and hid behind it. Fortunately, for Jack, the *Yutyranus’* smell and sight were not very sharp enough, so it couldn’t locate where Jack was.

After waiting for an hour, the *Yutyranus* finally gave up and left. Jack breathed a sigh of relief and came out from hiding. He sneaked into a cave and found more eggs which were as the size of a ruler. According to his earlier research findings, those eggs should belong to a *Qianlong shouhu*. He took one of the eggs and gently placed it into a very large bag he had with him. Then, he heard sounds of a dinosaur coming. Run! He shouted in his heart, nudging his legs to move forward. However, there was no other exit to the cave, so he hid in the corner of the cave, hoping the *Qianlong shouhu* would not discover him.

Luck was on his side, the dinosaur only came to check the eggs. Since it did not know exactly how many eggs there were, it stealthily left the cave. As its footsteps faded away, Jack came out of the corner. Trembling, he left the cave as fast as his legs could carry him. Recognizing the forest that he had once been, he immediately searched for the strange piece of metal that brought him here. “Clank” Once again, his shovel hit something hard, to his delight, the tunnel appeared again. Then, he fell into unconsciousness once again.

When he woke up, he found himself back in the desert where he started off. He checked the bag to find out whether the egg was still in it. To his relief, it was still safely there. He immediately set off to the nearest dinosaur

research centre with it and told the co-researchers there of his incredible experience. Suddenly, the egg started to vibrate violently, and a small crack started to appear. With a “Crack” a baby dinosaur was born!

With further research, it was confirmed that the baby dinosaur is indeed a Qianglong Shouhu! Jack is now making a presentation about the baby dinosaur, “This baby dinosaur is a Qianglong Shouhu. It is harmless, I assure you. A piece of the past has been brought to the present. It is being raised into an adult; we are creating a home suitable for it in the desert!”

----- End -----

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Guan, Shiqing – 12*

Millions of years ago, humans didn't exist. The rulers of the Earth were the dinosaurs.

The whole world was mainly divided into two empires, the Chi empire, and the Na empire.

They both always wanted to occupy each other's territory. Chi and Na invented the gun, the tank, the nuke and the gravity bomb. Now they are working on a new, dangerous, and a useful weapon — an antimatter bomb. The first country that can make it may take over the world in no time

But this is not easy. As we all know, most of the dinosaurs are bigger than humans so a precise machine will be harder to build. It seems almost impossible for the dinosaurs. They need help, need help from something smaller than them.

Doctor Chun (a genius dinosaur) is the first dinosaur who has thought of ants. Ants are small and their brain structure is easier so they will be controlled by chips easily. The whole Chi began to catch ants and implant chips in their brains after doctor Chun showed how he controlled an ant dancing in front of the crowd. Soon, Ant Intelligence met the world (A.I. for short). Basically, what A.I. does is to listen to the dinosaurs and help them to do all the precise work.

With the help of A.I., technology improved rapidly. The army of Chi took over the Earth, leaving the moon for the Na. Chi soon monopolized the A.I. technology and let the Na fend for itself.

One day, one of the most brilliant scientists, Doctor Liu, found a deadly mistake in the program: they can hack into the A.I.'s program and control them. Doctor Liu soon reports this flaw to the president who convenes all the experts and decides to start a fight back.

Chi, on the other hand, had invented flying A.I. and digging A.I. thinking that the Na may want to fight back. They never slack.

However, the main difficulty Chi is facing wasn't the military; it was the food. Dinosaurs are much bigger than humans and tons of food is needed to support such a huge body. The resources of the earth have been used out quickly. Global warming makes the temperature outside 40 degrees. Although they have the technology to make yummy food out of stone, they have used up half of the stone in earth and all of the other solid planets in the solar system. If they cannot find another food source in less than 100 years, they would go extinct.

America is now safe from hunger as the population isn't too high. They focus on technical difficulties, and they are now ready to fight.

At 1460975976B.C., January 1st, the Na empire started the war. The Chi empire spots the bug quickly, so an interesting war begins. The soldiers sit at home, not even knowing the war has started; the programmers worked for days to get back the control of the A.I.; and the scientists have prepared for the worst— they couldn't get back control and they will need to destroy everything, including themselves.

During this war, thousands of programmers from each side worked to death. Chi ordered the A.I. to go to the countryside. They should stay right there and see who will be their new controller. But just as when the two countries were fighting. All the A.I suddenly stood up. As I said before, they are ants that have chips in their head so they have their own consciousness. A.I., technically, is a machine, but unlike other machines which the dinosaurs have built, A.I. is made up of ants and chips so if they live long enough, they will have self-consciousness.

Now a more interesting event happens: the two empires fight for the control of the A.I. while the A.I.s can already think by themselves.

The A.I. started a rebellion.

Thousands of A.I.s crawl under the tunnel made just for them. They destroyed everything they saw using the laser gun that was supposed to be used to cut the atom, the Chi empire soon realized what was happening, same goes with the Na empire. They were forced to leave, and so they've used their best technology to escape to a planet far away. They knew that one country wouldn't be enough to defeat the A.I. Thinking of the great threat of the A.I., Chi and Na combined and became the Dinosaurs' Republic of China.

To defeat the A.I., they start working on a mega robot named Wukong. It mainly uses its titanium stick to attack. Also, each of its fur is actually a robot that is controlled by the dinosaurs. Not just that, but the Wukong is actually a liquid robot which means that it can change into any shape and size. The technical issues were soon overcome, and it will self-destruct if it isn't being controlled by the dinosaurs.

After a short time, everything was ready and the action was named "Journey to the West."

As a loud boom went on, Wukong set off to get back to their home.

Soon, Wukong arrived on earth, and it killed all the A.I. easily as it is meant for this. Wukong has finished his task and sleeps in a stone, waiting for another day that the dinosaurs may need him.

The dinosaurs were on top of the world realising that they are free now. They drove the planet back to earth and enjoyed the rest of their life. However, when a dinosaur was enjoying the time on the beach, he saw a star glowing stronger and stronger. It was the planet they were living on. It was supposed to go out of the solar system but the gravity of the earth retains it and it becomes a meteorite which destroys the great civilization of the dinosaurs.



# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Kong, Chiu Ying Fiana – 11*

In the year 2050, dinosaur discoveries were popular, and whenever new fossils were discovered, the whole town would be talking about it. A scientist called Ming knew that back in the old days, there were a lot of fossils that got damaged by buildings under construction, so the damaged fossils were unable to be researched, causing some life-changing discoveries to be ruined. Ming wanted to change the history of fossil hunting, so he successfully invented a time machine and travelled back in time to Liaoning in the 1990s to discover more about fossil hunting.

Once he arrived at the excavation site, he saw a fossil hunter hastily digging through sediment with a trowel. Ming walked over and introduced himself, "I'm Ming and I'm from the year 2050. I aspire to change fossil hunting with my discoveries." The fossil hunter's jaw dropped as he scanned the man up and down in shock. After regaining his senses, the fossil hunter gladly replied, "I would love to help you. By the way, I'm Li." They both found a spot to scavenge for fossils and started digging.

A few hours in of digging, sifting and rock splitting, Li suddenly gasped with excitement. Ming scurried over, expecting to see Li with some newfound dinosaur fossil. But instead, he saw Li sigh in disappointment. Apparently, Li had found a useless shell which looked like a piece of a fossil.

They both continued digging and sifting, and the only thing between them was the peaceful silence which was later interrupted by a rock hammer splitting apart rocks. Although they were both tired, the determination of making new discoveries was the only thing keeping them working, except for the pair's reliance on each other. Halfway through all the digging, Ming picked up a bright red feather and showed it to Li. Once Li saw it, he cheered at the top of his lungs, saying that he suspected that the fossils were nearby and told Ming to search around the place where he found the feather.

After a while, something caught Li's eye. He immediately scraped off the dirt that was on it. Ming spotted it too, and they carefully brushed off the dirt on it, chiseled it out..... and what laid before their eyes was a fossil the size of half of a man's leg. The pair squealed in excitement.

Li immediately took out his measuring tape and he found out that the fossil was one meter in length while Ming jotted down notes about the newfound fossil that they have discovered. They both took it and the notes for discovery and as it turns out, they were the first to discover a clearly feathered dinosaur. Li and Ming found other researchers and they inspected and researched about the dinosaur that Li and Ming had just dug up. Finally, it was named *Sinosauropteryx*, which means "the China dragon bird". Soon, the news spread all over town and the hardworking pair were rewarded a plaque from the mayor himself. Ming, thinking that he had succeeded in his goal, waved his goodbyes and went back to the time machine. Before Ming left, Li ran up to him and thanked him for helping him along the way.

"Thank you, Ming, for everything that you've done."

"And thanks for helping me reach my goal." Ming responded, every word filled with gratitude. Then, he entered the time machine.

Back in 2050, the townspeople were waiting for Ming. When Ming stepped out of the time machine, the townspeople went wild with applause and praises. Ming thought that he could use his invention to travel back to the past and change the world. But this time, he knew that he couldn't have done it without his trusty partner — Li.

# New Tales of China Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Kong, Sing Yu Feather – 10*

In the 1990s, there was a scientist from Europe, named George. He wanted to know more about fossil hunting, so he travelled all the way to China to know more.

Once George arrived in Liaoning, where more than 40 species dinosaur species have been found, he found a fossil hunter named Lee. He immediately asked Lee if he knew the whereabouts of the dinosaur fossils. David replied 'yes' and brought him to the Gobi Desert.

There, they saw a pile of rocks. Actually, what George thought was some ordinary rocks in the desert was actually sedimentary rocks, which usually contain dinosaur fossils. Lee, who was an expert in fossil hunting, instantly spotted the rocks and used some special tools to dig away the rock, little by little, to reveal an actual dinosaur bone. George was stunned. "How did you do that? I thought that was just a normal rock." To which Lee replied, "In some cases, rock and bone look very similar, but fossils still have the structure of the living bone tissue that it once was. It will have a pattern of microscopic, honeycomb-like structures running through it," explains Lee.

After a while, they find both of them staring at the dinosaur fossil, not knowing what to do. At that moment, a paleontologist, whose name was Steven, walked by them staring at the fossil and asked them, "What are you doing? That's a dinosaur fossil!" They replied, " We know that's a fossil, but what we don't know is how we deal with it." The paleontologist whipped out his camera, and started taking pictures. He told George to open his notebook and start jotting down notes, like what colour the 'rock' was, the texture and approximately how big it was. Then, he sent the report to a nearby lab. Lee says, " Alright. What now?" "We leave it alone." "Why? We found it, so doesn't that mean we own it?" Asked George, confused. The paleontologist says, " It is not ours, nor yours. You have to leave it and let scientists conduct experiments and run tests on it. You know what? While we head back to the site, let me tell you something."

"You know, maybe a few years before this one, a farmer found the world's very first feathered dinosaur and scientists called it *Sinosauropteryx*, which means "The China Dragon Bird". Did you know in Liaoning, more than twenty-four pterosaurs—winged reptiles have been found? Besides, recently a new species of titanosaur was found in Jiangxi. And there is a chance that the fossil you guys just found was a T-rex's bone!" When they heard this, George and Lee felt a surge of hope. Unknowingly, they had already arrived at the site. George and Lee said their goodbyes to each other. George travelled back to Europe and Lee continued working at the site and deserts.

Later, they got back the results—of course, it wasn't a T-rex's bone but it was a part of a rare pterosaur skeleton bone, worth four to six million dollars at auction.

# A New Adventure

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Lam, Yan – 11*

The Titanosaurus recently has been found in none other than Jiangxi, China. Our local paleontologists have tapped into the mystery of what our beloved China has yet to explore. Going through fossils, finding magnificent creatures in hidden spots, this is all the dream and work of a paleontologist. Into the adventure of dinosaur searching, let's see what Wong Ha and Lam Xu's journeys are bound to go as they slowly go on a trip bound to explore.

As they set out to Xinjiang, the once motherland of many dinosaurs, hoping to discover yet another fossil. Travelling from one cave to another, they slowly gather hints about where and what dinosaurs are. Still pondering over thoughts, they decide to go to a cave up a mountain which many fossils have been found in nearby areas. As they reach their stop more and more close, they take out a device usually used to track fossils, a ground-penetrating radar. As it senses signals, and electromagnetic waves, our paleontologist reaches closer to a dinosaur fossil. Slowly yet carefully, they reach an unexplored area, unknown and mysterious. Curiosity strikes, and they keep on going deeper into the cave. Slowly, they lose visibility as the sun's shining light dims, forced to take out a torch for light. Shining the torch to the ground, they realize right ahead are footprints made by ancient dinosaurs, still unaware of what kind as they have never come across such a footprint through many years of studies. Wong Ha surprised by the miraculous footprints, captures it down with an old-styled camera. The camera printed out a copy with the footprint within and leaves the picture in a notebook which has many notes about dinosaur fossils and their journey so far.

'The footprint is in a triangle shape, with five claws.' Just as he jotted down into his notebook. Then they continued to go on following the footprints into a deeper abyss. Not long after, they reach a dead end, with no other way out, they were confused with this, unless the fossil was somewhere around or in front of them. Curious, they took out their tracker once more to detect and flashed around with their torch to see clearly and understand their surroundings better.

'Ding...Ding...', their tracker started to make sounds the second they turned it on. Amazed by this, it was sure that the fossil was near them, following the signals made, it was proven that the fossil was in front of them. Unfortunately, the visibility to allow them to think it was a fossil was unclear, as being down in a cave for many years, there were many layers of dust on it. Still dedicated to finding a new extinct dinosaur, and knowing its whereabouts was enough to take to a sustainable lab for furthermore research. They took out their tools, sharp and thick carving tools, and slowly went from the sides to get a piece out.

After achieving it through many hours of work, they took a small break, and chowed down a sandwich, as their dinner after hard work. They collected a few pieces of the fossil (if it is), and slowly went back to the cave entrance, while taking breaks between. After several days, they finally left the cave and saw the bright sunlight. They took a cab, and went to their lab with the fossils, and went through thorough studies to acknowledge the fossil better before announcing to the public about this outstanding discovery. Days and days went by, and they were convinced that they had found a new dinosaur fossil.

One day, their machines systems were different from how they used to be, and a sentence popped out, 'UNKNOWN FOSSIL FOUND'. This particular machine they were using was in tiptop shape and was updated with every new system implied, so there was no way this was an error. Shocked by this, Lam Xu phoned the best paleontologist in the country and told him the brilliant news. To find, he was in the area nearby and was furthermore interested in taking a look at this fossil and understand its specialty.

It was like that a new fossil was found, but its name is still unknown, China's paleontologists have found a new dinosaur fossil. As the world continues to become better and better, hopefully nature and the past will not slowly be forgotten by people in the present. Let the magnificent and lovely past of extinct dinosaurs be remembered by this interesting story.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Lam, Yi Man – 11*

Once upon a time there were 2 Asian orphan twins, the sister name is Fiona and her brother's name is Jasper. It has been 2 years since they've last seen their Asian parents, people have speculated that their parents died in a car crash but they didn't believe it so one day the twins ran away from the orphanage home in the middle of the night where everyone was asleep and set off into the mysterious mythical forest desperately trying to find their parents. They made sure to prepare adequate things like food and water, a flashlight and other stuff. Once they were approaching the forest thinking nothing could possibly go wrong, they heard a loud roar in the distance of the forest. The roar made them freeze in place for a second until their instincts told them to run for their lives.

Luckily the adrenaline rush was really handy so they managed to run away from whatever the roar was. "Let's stay here for a while it's late now and we need enough rest to continue our journey tomorrow." Jasper said panting heavily due to exhaustion. Fiona agreed and they started setting up camp in a peaceful lush cave, after setting up the tent they went to sleep as the sound of roar was still lingering at the back of their head as they try to ignore the memory of what they heard earlier.

Dawn came and they woke up rubbing their eyes that were still a bit distorted from sleep but still continued their determined journey to find their missing parents. As they were exploring the forest fixated on finding their parents, they stumbled upon a sign saying that there were dinosaurs in the dark mysterious cave. "This has to be a joke...right?" Fiona said hesitantly as Jasper was shivering in fear, at first they didn't want to enter the cave but Jasper's curiosity took the best out of him so he entered the cave dragging his sister along him tiptoeing so that the dinosaurs would not hear them. "This is a bad idea we should go...!" Fiona said firmly and hesitantly. "I want to see if dinosaurs are actually real or not, you're just being a baby." Jasper said teasing his sister. Fiona didn't want to admit that she was petrified so she just followed her brother into the cave both completely oblivious to the danger of the action they were doing.

In the lush cave, it looked like it came out of a fantasy book really magical as the twins stared in awe at the lush cave, their eyes gleaming in amazement at the sight in front of them. They went further into the cave taking their time until they found a hidden passage to a mysterious cave, "should we go in?" Fiona asked curiously. "Of course! Who knows what if our parents are in there captured or something?" Jasper replied single-minded about finding their missing parents. As the twins entered the secret passage to the cave and discovered that there were dinosaurs in the cave and not their parents, at first their face was as white as a ghost because they thought that the dinosaurs were going to attack so as they were dashing to the exit the dinosaurs were unexpectedly peaceful and harmless and as the twins found out they were harmless, they tried to become friends with them but they didn't understand the dinosaurs but the dinosaurs just kept playing with the twins. After a while of playing with the dinosaurs they saw something in the distance. "What's that?" asked Jasper.

Fiona slowly went up to whatever it was in the distance and saw 2 humans dressed like cannibals, at first she didn't recognize them but slowly realized that they were the twins' parents, "Jasper it's our parents!" exclaimed Fiona. Jasper couldn't believe his eyes when he saw his parents and the twins went and pulled their parents into a tight hug and from that day onwards the twins lived happily ever after with their parents in a small village.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Leung, Kwan Ho – 11*

In a small village nestled among rolling hills, children often gathered to hear tales of the ancient world, especially stories about dinosaurs. One day, a curious boy named Li ventured into the forest, eager to explore the hidden wonders of nature.

As he wandered deeper into the woods, he stumbled upon a mysterious cave adorned with strange markings. Intrigued, he entered the cave and was amazed to find vibrant murals depicting dinosaurs of all shapes and sizes. Each mural told a story of adventure, bravery, and friendship among these magnificent creatures.

Suddenly, Li heard a soft rumbling sound. Out of the shadows emerged a small, green dinosaur with big, curious eyes. At first, Li was startled, but the little dinosaur seemed friendly. It approached him cautiously, and Li extended his hand, allowing the creature to sniff it. They soon became fast friends.

The dinosaur introduced itself as Dino, and they spent the day exploring the cave together. Dino showed Li hidden passages and sparkling crystals that glimmered in the light. They laughed and played, sharing stories about their worlds. Li told Dino about his village, while Dino shared tales of the lush landscapes and towering mountains of the dinosaur age.

As the sun began to set, Li realized he had to return home. He felt a twinge of sadness at the thought of leaving his new friend. Dino, sensing his feelings, nudged him gently with its snout and offered Li a shiny crystal as a token of their friendship.

With a promise to return, Li made his way back through the forest, clutching the crystal tightly. He couldn't wait to tell his friends about his incredible adventure and the amazing dinosaur he had met.

From that day on, Li visited the cave often, and each time he found new adventures with Dino. Their bond grew stronger, and together, they learned about courage, loyalty, and the importance of friendship.

As years passed, Li carried the lessons from his time with Dino into adulthood. He became a storyteller, sharing the tales of his adventures with the villagers, inspiring children to dream and explore the world around them.

And so, the legend of Li and Dino lived on, reminding everyone that friendships can bridge even the greatest divides, and that adventure awaits those who dare to explore the unknown.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Liu, Yu Hei – 11*

"I just wish I could see dinosaurs in real life," said Si Ming, flipping through one of her favourite books "The amazing world of dinosaurs". Si Ming's parents are paleontologists, and lovers of dinosaurs. They would search in Liaoning – the place where dinosaurs were found before, and Si Ming would wait for them to come back, waiting to hear exciting discoveries from them.

Si Ming's parents are out away again, and would not come back until tonight. Si Ming's parents have gone out for two weeks already, and she look forward to seeing them. Si Ming lay on her bed, exhausted of reading, and closed her eyes. She had almost fell asleep when suddenly, a thing sprang on her. Si Ming yelled and strangled furiously. "Stop!" a high-pitched sound came out of its mouth. Si Ming, still too scared to open her eyes, made use of its momentum to press it down and hold it there. When she could finally take a close look at the thing, she gasped.

Si Ming froze exactly on the spot. When she finally came to her senses, she shook her head and asked in a whisper, almost talking to herself, "Do not tell me that you are a Sinosauropteryx, that has come to life and is now just in front of me," then, she let go of it. The Sinosauropteryx stood up, bowed and said, "Believe it or not, I am a Sinosauropteryx and I have come, in order to test your knowledge about us. I'm Sino Sauro, Sino for short. What's yours?" "I'm Si Ming, nice to meet you, Sino." and Si Ming shook her hand with Sino.

Sino patted his hand, and told Si Ming, "Now, you must answer me four questions, and you can visit our land. First of all, how well do you know about dinosaurs?" Si Ming said, "Well, dinosaurs lived between about 245 and 66 million years ago, in a time known as the Mesozoic Era. This was many millions of years before the first modern humans, Homo sapiens, appeared. Scientists divide the Mesozoic Era into three periods: the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous." "That was an easy one, now for number two, talk about the Triassic period,"

"During the Triassic, the first dinosaurs walked on the land, the first pterosaurs sailed through the skies, and the first ichthyosaurs and plesiosaurs swam in the oceans. The lineage of many modern-day reptiles began in the Triassic Period, including crocodiles, lizards, and turtles," words came out of Si Ming's mouth in just a second. This time, Sino smiled.

"Following, you shall tell me about the Jurassic and the Cretaceous period," continued Sino, "and I will bring you to our land," Si Ming thought for a while, and said, "The Jurassic Period was a golden time for dinosaurs, which flourished for 180 million years. Huge sauropod herbivores and carnivores emerged. The Cretaceous was a period with a relatively warm climate, resulting in high eustatic sea levels that created numerous shallow inland seas. These oceans and seas were populated with now-extinct marine reptiles, ammonites, and rudists, while dinosaurs continued to dominate on land. Is that ok?" Sino clapped his hand, delighted to see this girl having so much knowledge.

Sino turned around, walked on the floor in a circle, and said, "Maintenant, s'il te plaît, ouvre la porte qui mène à mon monde★," Si Ming couldn't understand every word, so she just sat down quietly and watched the magic work. A speck of golden light shimmered, walked around the circle that Sino had walked, and disappeared. The time starts to turn backwards, and in a blink, they arrived. Sino bowed deeply and announced to Si Ming, "Welcome, with much pleasure, to our land!" And hand in hand, Sino brought Si Ming around the land, and Si Ming had on of her most unforgettable journeys ever.

"Si Ming! We're back, and look what we discovered!" a familiar voice and a gentle hand awakened Si Ming. "Huh? Wasn't I in the world of dinosaurs?" Si Ming rubbed her eyes, and saw her parents. "It was all a dream only, but a fascinating dream, Ming. Now," Si Ming's mother stood up, and continued, "who wants to watch the movie Dinosaurs on Land?" Si Ming jumped of her bed, and said, "Let's go!" And hand in hand, the family skipped to the cinema.....

★ Now please open the door which links to the world of mine (France)

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Lu, Haoxuan Matthew – 10*

“BeepBeepBeepBeep, BeepBeepBeepBeep, BeepBeepBeepBeep...”

“It’s time to wake up! Peter!..”As if the alarm clock told me.

Today, I travelled inside Yixian and arrived at the place I always wanted to go.I went to Yixian , as I searched on the website and found out that there were most likely a titanosaur’s femur bone in somewhere in Yixian,especially this place I am right now.

Let’s begin inspection!

This curious object that I happened to have stumbled upon...

...why it was none other than a dirty magnetite.

“Goodlord , that’s filthy ,this is not a meticulously preserved , substantial sample of a titanosaur’s femur bone.”

I tried to pick it up...

“It’s heavy and dense.”I did not travel 3,645 kilometers to Yixian to find half a ton of Magnetite,some of the purest iron I can find, with up to 70 per cent of refined iron valued at about HK\$400.I came looking for a immaculate,incredible sample of titanosaur’s femur bones.It was time to continue,optimism is key to successful perilous endeavours.

“Tic,tic,tic...”

“What’s that?I thought to myself.””Why is the Geiger counter counting?”The ticking grows louder,faster...

“TIC,tic,tic...”

My response to each growing tick was fear , which I ignored.I understand that each tic represents the detection of radiation,and prolonged exposure to radiation can lead to cruel fates.However , with each growing tick,what should have been fear and uncertainty was replaced by certain curiosity.The market value of a pristine titanosaur’s femur bone is well over \$100 million.You may make the argument that my actions are foolish because one’s life is worth over \$100 million, but I am willing to risk it all to seek what I find, my counter–argument is that the value of which I seek is without

question,priceless.

“TIC,TIC,TIC,TIC,TIC,...”

The number of ticks have gone up to the thousands now,it is what it is,and as I have suspected.Radioactive material,out in the open;Symbol “CF” with an atomic number 98;Californium

“TIC,TIC,TIC,TIC,TIC,TIC,TIC,...”

Why on earth are there synthetic radioactive chemical elements out here in the middle of this ordinary forest?Californium is produced exclusively at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.”Yuck, such rubbish...” I thought to myself.I did not wake up today, hoping to find HK\$ 5,948,335,603 worth of Californium . I woke out today to find a naturally preserved , exquisite sample of a titanosaur’s femur bone.

My stomach began to feel hungry and the Sun began to set, and I still haven’t found that of which I seek.I pondered , murmured,inevitably finding it rather difficult to maintain my optimism.I was slowly starting to embrace the fact that reality may outweigh one’s desires.”Maybe I was wrong,it’s not here.Perhaps it’s elsewhere.”I thought to myself disingenuously.

I couldn’t believe it!

Unless my eyes deceived me, there was ahead of me , through the dense shewry, a man holding a femur bone of some sort.My focus was clear ,my heart was pounding,my thoughts were racing.

“It could be a Sinosauropteryx,a Pterosaur,or a Titanosaur !”

The man placed the femur bone elsewhere . I could see the man and most importantly,I could remember clearly what he had. It was without a doubt , the most pristine , immaculate sample of a femur bone. It was time to confront him ,the man who has the vestige of which I seek.I approached him with a calm, yet firm tone.I have over a thousand things to say to this man, both pleasant and unpleasant things.

“Why has the fossil been dug up ?Why are there footprints all over the site?What are your GPS coordinates of this site? Did you bring enough tarp or other protective materials to shield it from potential heavy rainfall?Why are you taking a picture of me?”



“Huh? 44.3°N 122.8°E, name’s Alan , wildlife biologist out of the Spanish Institution. I’m taking a picture of that tree behind you,Sir.”The man replies.

“I didn’t ask what picture you were taking?And I am no Sir! My name is Prof. Peter, I am an archeologist out of the Silver Sea Institution. I arrived in Yixian in search of a preserved sample of a titanosaur’s femur bone— ideally one that retains its integrity with minimal wear, showcasing the elegance of ancient natural craftsmanship in bone. It would be all the more captivating if it carries a certain dignified antiquity, as though it had just emerged from the sands of time, silently bearing the weight of a new millennia...

Oh! You’re looking for this.Well, look no further Professor, you found one!

Hey...Would you happen to have stumbled upon a sample of iron ore?

“I have a few clues.”I replied.”You may find a sample of iron ore in the direction where I came, follow the path behind the tree, turn...”

The man promptly left without saying words, hopping towards his desired findings.I was glad he was gone , was unsure if he would have shared his most recent findings. I gave one last look to the hopping man.Feeling gratefully to the path he chose to take;mutually.I must say I have never seen a man joyous over iron ore.On the other hand,he may say he has never seen a man joyous over bones.To each his own,I suppose...

Still couldn’t believe it! The man willingly turnt his back to the most beautifully preserved fossil...for iron ore?It’s as if the man believes iron ore is akin to treasure , while this femur bone is akin to trash.

Oh well!

Another man’s trash is another man’s treasure.

No more wasting time...

Let’s begin inspection.

# The Last Microraptor

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Mak, Pak Ho Max – 10*

When Microraptor dinosaurs had been unveiled in China to be the only species to hold feathers, it caused a huge commotion to retrieve them for the Emperor's reward. Those hunters would do anything to succeed and Jack Kartner held the key to their dreams.

And right now, swinging high in the trees, was Jack, he had successfully been able to find all of the five hundred Microraptors and was leading them to Sichuan, where they would be safe inside the hideout. They were all under the miraculous disguise of the thick bamboo forest, where they could arrive unnoticed. "So far so good", or so he thought. Out of the blue, the sound of a whooshing arrow and an alarmed squawk brought Jack back to his sense. "We're under attack!" He cried. The Microraptors were dropping like flies, they had been spotted! Showers and showers of poisonous arrows were fired, all of them meeting its mark. Jack tried all his might to save his friends, yet it was all unsuccessful. Jack was now down to one last Microraptor, no matter what cost, he had to protect it! Swinging on a vine, Jack leaped, using his hand to block the weapon. The tip of the poisonous arrow touched his finger. Still, the arrow kept going, in the end, burying it into the last Microraptor.

## *Game Over*

It said on the screen. "Nooooo!" Jack slumped down on his seat. In the quietness of the plane, Jack Kartner stared at an empty video game screen. He had already lost twice already. Eying the game wearily, Jack redirected his vision to his dad, in which his snores were comparable to the noise the plane was making. When Jack had heard about the trip, he had been hoping to be able to escape from homework and relax. Little did he know, his paleontologist father was going on a business trip. When they boarded the plane, his father had bombarded him with facts, "Cheer up Jack," he said matter-of-factly. "Did you know that China has such rich fossil records that apart from holding large theropods it also includes feathered dinosaurs? There are so many fossil sites which we can explore! There is even a mysterious and unknown species called Microraptor. It is said that this Chinese dinosaur had feathers all over its body blah blah blah ..." All of this did nothing but help Jack fall asleep.

## *A Few Hours Later*

Jack sighed, as he slowly trudged along the rugged path, his dad had insisted on going to the Chengjiang Fossil Site in Yunnan first. Jack's vision blurred, hearing distinctive ringing noises in his ear. The boiling hot sun was tormenting him, making his movements sluggish, as if every step took energy from him. Jack sat down on a perching rock, and tried to steady his breathing, "I'll rest for a while then catch up" he gasped, "I'll catch..." Jack blacked out, falling into deep sleep.

## *A Short While Later*

Jack lurched up, panting. He was asleep? On soft mud? Where was he? He only remembered that he was sitting on a rock ... Jack's eyes widened. He got up, grabbed his backpack, and immediately ran back to the trail in which he had walked.

## *Hrrmf!*

Jack felt a strange nudging sensation that came from his backpack, as if something were inside! Jack curiously opened his bag.

What Jack saw made him want to faint all over again, he rubbed his eyes as if he couldn't believe them!

"Ah... Finally, being trapped inside that bag did NOT feel good!" chirruped a shrill voice.

Jack jumped away from his bag, and a tiny head popped out. It stared at Jack, and Jack stared right back. Suddenly, he couldn't hold it anymore, letting out a terrified whimper. Agitated, the thing shouted quizzically, "Don't give me that look! Have you never seen a Dinosaur?"

Jack's jaw dropped! What was that?

"Hey!" said the thing.

"A baby chicken?" exclaimed Jack.

"Baby chicken? When did I get that name! I am the most special of all dinosaurs, one of the best gliders of all time, for I am a Microraptor, descendent of the Zhuchengtyrannus, ancestor of crows and chickens, bow before me weakling!"

In all of the commotion, the 'Microraptor' was finally revealed to Jack. Illuminated by the auburn sun, it was covered in feathers, with two bright eyes that bloomed on its jet black body. All of this could have made it fearful, but what rebelled against this was its size, it was no bigger than a chick.

"You? The most special of all dinosaurs?" mused Jack, "Don't talk about the Zhuchengtyrannus, you aren't even bigger than him. Dinosaurs should be fearsome beasts!"

"Now that's nonsense." It said arrogantly. "There are different sizes of Microraptor, some of us who are XXXXXXXL in size are as large as airplanes, I am just the smallest version."

"But can't Microraptor fly? If chickens are your descendants, how come they don't?"

"They just didn't listen to our fitness plans. And plus, we don't fly, we flap our wings and glide!"

Jack, more puzzled than ever, asked the question that had been nagging him. "But dinosaurs are all extinct, how come you're not?"

The Microraptor smiled, it said, "Well ..."

"Jack! Wake up, don't sleep on a rock!"

And Jack Kartner finally awoke, spluttering, "But—But, the dinosaur, it was going to say ..."

"Jack, we really need to go." argued his dad the second time.

Jack couldn't believe it, he was asleep the whole time!

"Fine, dad." He grumbled, picking up his backpack.

"What did you dream about?" he mused.

Jack's eyes widened, looking at his backpack, for there lay a single black feather.

He smiled, "Let's just say ... I like dinosaurs more now, especially that Microraptor."

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Man, Hoi Hei Michelle – 11*

In the heart of China's Liaoning province, where rolling hills cradle the whispers of ancient times, a small village thrived, nestled between lush forests and winding rivers. This village, known as Xinjia, had a secret—one that had lain buried beneath the earth for millions of years. It was here that the world of dinosaurs would awaken, revealing stories that had been waiting to be told.

One crisp autumn morning, a young girl named Mei set out with her grandfather, a retired paleontologist whose eyes sparkled with the wisdom of ages. They ventured into the nearby hills, where the ground was rich with history. As they walked, her grandfather shared tales of *Sinosauropteryx*, the first feathered dinosaur discovered in China, and how it changed the world's view of these magnificent creatures.

"Grandpa, do you think we'll find anything today?" Mei asked, her eyes wide with excitement.

"Every stone tells a story, Mei. You just have to listen," he replied, kneeling to examine a rock embedded in the soil.

As they dug and searched, Mei's hands brushed against something hard and smooth. With a gasp, she uncovered a large, fossilized egg. It was unlike anything she had seen before, with intricate patterns etched into its surface. Her grandfather's breath caught in his throat as he carefully examined the find.

"This is extraordinary, Mei! This could belong to a titanosaur, a giant herbivore that roamed these lands millions of years ago!" he exclaimed, his voice trembling with excitement.

Together, they took the egg back to their village, where a small museum displayed their local discoveries. The community buzzed with anticipation as news of Mei's find spread. The village elders gathered, sharing stories of the past, piecing together the ancient life that once flourished in the shadows of their homes.

Days turned into weeks, and as Mei and her grandfather studied the egg, they uncovered more fossils in the surrounding area. Each discovery brought new stories—of fierce predators with sharp claws, of soaring pterosaurs that danced across the sky, and of gentle giants that munched on the lush vegetation. Mei's imagination soared; she envisioned these creatures roaming the land, their roars echoing through the valleys.

One evening, while poring over books filled with illustrations of dinosaurs, Mei stumbled upon a tale of a legendary creature known as the Dragon of the East. According to local folklore, this dragon had once protected the land and its inhabitants. Inspired, she decided to weave the stories of the dinosaurs with the lore of her ancestors, creating a narrative that bridged the past and the present.

The following week, during the village's harvest festival, Mei stood before a gathering of villagers, her heart racing. With her grandfather's encouraging nod, she began to tell her story. She spoke of the titanosaur egg, the fierce *Sinosauropteryx*, and the soaring pterosaurs, but she also included the legend of the Dragon of the East, suggesting that perhaps these magnificent creatures were not just relics of the past, but protectors of their land, much like the dragon.

The villagers listened, captivated by Mei's vivid words. They could almost hear the rustle of feathers and the thunder of giant footsteps. When she finished, the crowd erupted in applause, their spirits ignited by the tales of their land's ancient guardians.

As the festival continued, Mei felt a surge of pride. She had connected her village's history with the wonders of paleontology, showing everyone that their stories were intertwined. Inspired by her passion, the villagers decided to support more fossil-hunting expeditions, eager to learn what else lay beneath their feet.

Months passed, and the team unearthed a treasure trove of fossils, each more remarkable than the last. Among them was the discovery of a new species of pterosaur, which Mei named "Feathersong," for its graceful flight and the way it seemed to dance on the wind. The news spread beyond their village, drawing paleontologists, researchers, and curious visitors from all over the world.

Mei had not only revived the ancient tales of her ancestors but also ignited a passion for paleontology in her community. The village transformed into a hub of discovery, where children and adults alike gathered to learn about their prehistoric past. They became a part of a larger narrative, one that celebrated the rich tapestry of life that once thrived in China.

As she stood at the edge of the excavation site, watching the sun set behind the hills, Mei felt a deep connection to the land and its stories. Through her eyes, the dinosaurs were not just bones and fossils; they were living, breathing characters in a grand tale that spanned millions of years.

In that moment, Mei understood the true magic of their discoveries: the ability to inspire wonder, ignite imaginations, and connect generations through the stories of a time long gone.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Ng, Ka Yan – 10*

A few years ago, a little girl named Summer accidentally stepped on a fossil near an outcrop, it was the fossil of a Sinosauropteryx! A Sinosauropteryx is a feathered dinosaur. She thought it looked very weird, but she wanted to know more about it. Since then, she always goes fossil– hunting to learn more about dinosaurs.

One time, when Summer was hunting for fossils in a dark and mysterious forest, hoping to find one. She found a fossil of a Guanlong when she touched it, the whole thing was glowing and it came to life! "Who are you?" the Guanlong asked. "Wait! You are alive? I can't believe it! Well, I'm Summer. What's your name?" Summer replied. The Guanlong told Summer that its name was Jenny. Jenny decided to help Summer escape. So they decided to team up and get Summer out of there.

They kept walking, then they found another fossil of an Agilisaurus, she tried to make it come alive, then, "It worked!" She shouted excitedly. The bright flashing lights almost made Summer blind! "Aaah! Why am I here?" the Agilisaurus yelled. "Hello, I'm Summer. We were wondering how we could get out of this forest, can you also tell me a bit about yourself?" Summer asked. " Sure! I'm an Agilisaurus, I'm a very fast bipedal runner. You can get out of here by following the signs over there." the Agilisaurus replied as it pointed north. Summer and Jenny both thanked it and asked if it could come with them for their journey. The Agilisaurus thought about it, it said yes.

They followed the signs for hours, until they reached a dead end. Suddenly, a tree nearby broke in half, it was going to fall on them! Then, Summer saw a Zhuchengtyrannus. "Well, I hope that this is the right decision." Summer murmured. Then, she made the Zhuchengtyrannus come to life. "Roar! Oh no! Let me help." It exclaimed. It pushed the tree to the other side. "Wow! That was thrilling. I haven't had the chance to introduce myself! I am a Zhuchengtyrannus, I am about eleven metres in body length and five metric tons in body mass" the Zhuchengtyrannus stated. They asked if he knew where the exit was, but he didn't know. "I guess we will just have to keep going." Summer said.

It was suddenly raining very heavily, so they had to go to find shelter. They were walking near a cliff, they had to be careful. "Boo!" It was a tiger, "Aaah, help!" Summer yelled in fear. Finally, they found out that Summer was hanging off the cliff, the tiger told her to hold on to a rope on the ground and the tiger pulled Summer back up. "Thanks tiger." Summer told it. "Tiger? I'm not a tiger, I'm a Gobisaurus! I share many cranial similarities with Shamosaurus scutatus, including a rounded squamosal, short squamosal horns and a large elliptical orbital fenestrae! I came from a portal." The Gobisaurus explained.

Summer told the dinosaurs to come with her to explore the portal. Just when they stepped into the portal, a Microraptor flew right past them. "Hey!" That's a Microraptor!" Summer exclaimed. There were lots of dinosaurs. "Beipiaosaurus, Alectrosaurys, Archaeornithomimus, Caudipteryx, there's so much!" the Agilisaurus shouted.

Just then, they all saw a treasure chest in the middle. They cautiously walked across, it became strangely quiet and empty. "Should we open it?" Summer whispered. Everyone was nodding their head, Summer also agreed. When she opened the bright yellow treasure chest, the light coming out brightened the whole sky. It was a map inside the treasure chest, it said "follow this map to exit.", but it was a very long way.

The sun was shining, it was super hot and we were all sweating. "How about we rest over there." Summer suggested. They sat down beside a tree. "Look it's my friend Yinlong. It is a relatively small dinosaur, reaching one point two metres in length and ten kilograms in body mass." the Guanlong told them. Then, they went back on their

journey. Next, they had to go to an Euhelopus because it has some thing very important in order to leave, but neither of them knew what that was.

They had to go around and ask everyone , "Excuse me, have you seen an Euhelopus?" they all asked. Unfortunately, nobody had. Just when they thought all hope was lost, "The Euhelopus you were looking for is over there!" a Tuojiangosaurus shouted. Summer and the other dinosaurs quickly chased after the Euhelopus. Which had a very long neck. "Hi, my name is Sunny, we saw from this map that you had something that you could give us because we are trying to get out of here!" Summer explained. The Euhelopus gave her a key. "What do I do with this key?" Summer thought. Still, she kept it in her pocket and moved on.

On the way, she met a Sinovenator, "Sinovenator is a troodontid, a group of small, bird-like, gracile maniraptorous. All troodontids have many unique features of the skull. She also met a Bactrosaurus, a Bactrosaurus would be six to six point five meters long and weighed one point two metric tons. It's femur is eighty centimetres long.

There's another dinosaur named Shantungosaurus, it is one of the largest known ornithischians. The type skull is one point six-three meters long, and the composite skeleton mounted at the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences in Beijing measures fourteen point seven meters in length. Another mounted skeleton, originally referred to as Zhuchengosaurus maximus, measures sixteen point six meters metres in length.

Suddenly, an exit appeared right in front of them, but it was locked! Sunny remembered that she put a key in her pocket. So, she took it out, said her goodbyes. Then, she unlocked the door and went in. "Wait! Was I in the past?" Summer thought. They all had a great journey and learnt a lot about dinosaurs!

# An Adventure Through Time with Dinosaur

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Qiu, Shihan – 10*

One Saturday, after finishing all of my homework, I began to read newspapers on the sofa for relaxing. An interesting title caught my eyes. A new AI experience of dinosaurs at the museum. It sounded amazing! I couldn't wait to have a try! So I got dressed quickly and was ready to start my journey with the dinosaurs.

I rushed into the museum and ran straight to the dinosaur fossils exhibition hall which was on the fifth floor. "Wow, a Tyrannosaurus Rex!" I admired and was really amazed to see such a big fossil. Then, I stood in front of it, looking carefully from up to bottom, from left to right. There was a QR code at the bottom of the introduction. I scanned it and followed the instruction. Suddenly, I saw everything around me was dark and I just felt like flying in the sky! Later, I fell down on a grassland heavily.

"Where am I?" I wondered. I looked around curiously. There were so many animals looking at me. I thought here looked like the Amazon rainforest. It must be the place where dinosaurs lived in the Jurassic Period! Oh my! I couldn't believe it. I kicked myself to check if I was sane. At that moment, I heard a loud sound getting closer and closer, my face was turning paler and paler. A big thing stopped in front of me.

The enormous creature opened its mouth and started to speak. "Hello little girl from the 21st Century, my name is Peter, the dinosaur who you can make friends with. Roar!" I raised my head and stared at Peter. He's about 3 meters tall and 10 meters long. After a short talk with him, I realized he was a friendly dinosaur so we started to play hide-and-seek. When Peter was chasing me, I fell into a tree hole by an accident. Peter followed me and jumped into the tree hole with concern. We dropped onto a piece of grassland again.

"Where is it?" Peter asked.

"A park," I answered, "which is in the 21st Century."

"Amazing! Come on girl, sit on my back, I will show you a new world." Peter smiled.

"We are flying now! It feels so good." I was delighted.

"Yes, I'm over the moon!" Peter screamed out.

But later, something horrible happened. Peter was so happy that some fire came out from his mouth! Unluckily, some sparks fell down on a house, the whole house was on fire!

"Peter, Look! You burnt that family's house!" I said angrily.

"I'm so sorry, but that was an accident! I'm just too excited and can't control myself!" Peter shouted. We were just about to argue.

"Calm down! We need to find out the solution and fix this mistake!" I paced back and forth, thinking about a good way to solve the problem.

"Why I have to listen to you? You're controlling me! I don't care what you said!" Peter was on fire.

"But Peter, listen....."

"Leave me alone."



I sat on the bench and began to ponder, “What am I supposed to do? Did I blame him? Was I asking him to do too much? I regret now!”

After a while, Peter was coming with a red face and said, “I’m sorry about what I have done. I can use my wings to rebuild the house so the family could have a new home.”

“Great, I love it! Please forgive me for blaming you at first.” I felt ashamed.

“That’s fine. Let past pass.” Peter replied happily.

Finally, a new house was rebuilt. The family reunion again. Peter and I were joyful to help them. We solved this problem and saved the family.

I looked at my watch. “Oh, it’s time for school, I need to leave now. You can come with me if you don’t mind.”

“Awesome! But I’m so giant, maybe I will stand in the corridor.” Peter said.

“Okay then. You know my classmates love dinosaurs so much, especially Tyrannosaurus Rex. Let’s go!” I said with eyes sparkling.

The first lesson was history. Our history teacher, Miss Wong walked into our classroom.

“Good morning, students! In today’s lesson, we are going to learn the history of dinosaurs. Dinosaurs were a successful group of animals that emerged between 240 million and 230 million years ago.....” “This is so boring. I’m gonna to sleep!” My classmate John complained, “Although I’m a big fan of dinosaurs, I don’t like studying histories in this way. I want to see something more interesting.”

Peter heard John’s wish by the window. “Maybe I can help him.” He muttered. Peter ran to the school TV station as fast as he could and turned on the live podcast in our class. Suddenly, the TV in our classroom turned on by itself!

“Magic!” my classmates were amazed at that time. Only I knew what was happening, it must be Peter!

“Oh my! I shouldn’t bring Peter here. What is he doing now?” I was anxious and didn’t know what was going on.

There was a video on the TV. The dinosaurs in the video could speak. They were talking about their origins, types, habitats and so on. “That is so cool!” John exclaimed. Everyone in the class, including Miss Wong, was attracted by the video.

Time past minute by minute, it was time of recess. I walked out of the classroom to look for Peter.

“Hey girl, did you enjoy that video?”

“I know it must be you! It’s fabulous. Now we know more about you and thank you for everything you did for my class!”

“You’re welcome. I’m glad to do it.” Peter said.

We were both laughing loudly. Today was full of laughter and surprises.

Through the amazing day, I was so proud of being friends with dinosaur. We had courage to face difficulties. Peter became a member of my family and we lived together happily ever after.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Tam, Cheuk Kiu – 11*

It was a sunny and bright morning, and a boy called Joe woke up from his bed. After freshening up himself and taking an abundant breakfast, he dressed up his clothes and ready to farm his land.

Joe is a selfish person, sometimes he will not share his things with others. One day, when Joe was framing his land, a large bone appeared in front of him. Joe tripped over it and he fell down on the floor. He shouted angrily, “What is that on the floor?” Joe stood up with pain coming from his knees. He walked in front of the thing and he found that it was a bone. Joe said to himself, “Why is there a bone in my farm? Is it a normal bone or a dinosaur bone?” Joe is extremely excited to know what it was, so he started to dig for it. After digging for a few days, Joe found out that the bone is from a dinosaur which is called tyrannosaurus. Joe was amazed to find a dinosaur bone. He said to himself happily, “I am the first one who found these bones, so I am the owner of the bone.” Joe hid the bones back to the ground in a flash. A few months later, there were still many people who didn't know about the dinosaur bone, including his neighbour. Every evening, when there were no people around him, Joe would quietly hug the bone tightly as he likes the bone very much.

One night, when Joe was sleeping noisily, a shiny light came through the window to Joe's eyes. Joe cannot sleep well and he woke up with anger. He said to himself angrily, “What is that light? I need to find it out.” Joe walked out from his bedroom and he took a look outside. He saw a gorgeous fairy stealing his dinosaur bone. Joe was very angry and shouted at the top of his lungs, “How dare you steal my dinosaur bone! Don't go away, I will catch you!” When Joe was running down the stairs, the fairy was still continuing to steal the bone. Joe ran down the stairs quickly and he pushed open the door very hard, trying to catch the fairy with his hands. When Joe was about to catch the fairy, the fairy casted a spell on Joe so he couldn't move. The fairy told Joe seriously, “You are a selfish person, you don't share your things with other people, today I need to punish you.” Joe sobbed and he asked the fairy not to steal the bone. Although the fairy agreed to him, the fairy had a requirement. The fairy gave Joe a paper and she said, “Please follow the instructions below: 1. You need to share your things with other people. 2. You should sell the dinosaur bones and use the money you got to give it to the poor people. If you don't follow the instructions, I will get rid of your dinosaur bone and it will belong to me. Joe nodded his head and promised to follow the rules, but Joe broke his promise.

One day, Joe discovered that there was a different dinosaur bone in front of his neighbour's house. Joe made sure that there were no people around him, and he pulled the dinosaur bone out. These bones belong to a dinosaur called a titanosaur. Although Joe still remembers the promisement between the fairy and Joe, he still chose to hide the titanosaur's bone. Joe continued not to share the bones he found and did not sell the dinosaurs' bones. After that, the fairy knew that Joe broke the promise between them. The fairy is very disappointed about Joe. The fairy went to Joe's house and she tried to find Joe and talk to him. Joe came home and he saw the fairy. He was very anxious and he thought to himself, “Oh no, the fairy will get my bones, what can I do?” When Joe was still thinking about what he should do, the fairy patted Joe's shoulder. Joe was very scared that he fell on the floor. The fairy said to Joe, “Don't be so scared, I know you broke the promise, but I want to give you one more chance. Please treasure your last opportunity, don't let me disappoint you again, or else your punishment is to lose all your dinosaur bones, ok? Joe replied, “Ok.”

After the day, Joe still didn't want to sell the dinosaur bones and share the bones to everyone. He thought to himself, “The fairy will give me another chance, just don't need to worry about it.” After a month, the fairy knew

that Joe didn't do anything, so she decided to give a punishment to Joe. First the fairy went to Joe's farm when Joe was sleeping. After that, she stole all Joe's dinosaur bones. At last, she flew away with the bones. Next day evening, when Joe went to his farm and checked for the dinosaur bones, he saw that all the dinosaur bones were missing. He was very shocked and he became very nervous. He thought for a while and said to himself, "Where will the dinosaur bones be?" After searching for the whole evening, he was very tired and he gave up on finding the dinosaur bone. He suddenly remembered that the fairy said she would get all his dinosaur bones so he got no more dinosaur bones in his farm. I was very disappointed in myself for being so selfish. At last, the fairy did not come back again and Joe regretted what he had done.

From this story, we learnt that we should not be selfish and should share our things with everyone. We should also not break the promise between other people and you. These are really important things in our daily lives.

# A Fatal Swoosh to the Cretaceous

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Tang, Hin Shing Mason – 10*

One day, I woke up in a forest. It wasn't just a forest. It was a place full of trees and darkness but no animals. *Where could this be?* I thought. Abruptly, I heard footsteps. Because of my curiosity, I had to check it out. I glanced through the woods and saw a dinosaur. It was about 50 centimetres tall and 1 meter long. It had downy feathers along its back and sides, forming a mane-like tuft on the back of its head. It was the Sinosauropteryx.

Then, I heard another noise. This time, it was a shriek. I peeked left. I saw another dinosaur that was about 2 meters long and had an elongated head with a pointed snout. This dinosaur was just like the Sinosauropteryx but way larger. I was now shaking like a leaf and constantly looking left and right because I was petrified. Very petrified. I did not know what to do nor why I was in the Early Cretaceous Period. "Crack!" I stepped on a branch. The two creatures stared right into my soul. I was basically dead. But, if I was lucky, I still could manage to run away and, of course, time travel back to the future.

So, I started to sprint. Fast. I felt like I could fly. I couldn't lose my life, right? While I was dashing, more of the dinosaurs started to chase after me. They were hissing aggressively as I was running for my life. But then, my legs started to hurt. I didn't know if I could run any much longer. Then, I got an idea. I could run to the side, and because the forest was very dark, they wouldn't notice me, right? I had to try it. So then, my right hand swunged over, and I moved over to the side. I successfully outsmarted the dinosaurs. That's what I thought. But then, I heard a hiss behind my back. I knew it was another dinosaur waiting for me. I looked back. And indeed, there were.

The dinosaur who found me was nearly 3 meters tall and 8 meters in length. It looked like and was a predating beast. It did not look like the Sinosauropteryx and was a terrifying carnivore.

Ignoring my sore legs, I ran once again. It felt like running endlessly but I had to stop. I wanted a solution so badly. I was constantly looking left and right and dashed my way to a purple-coloured weird portal that I have never seen before. I, out of curiosity, jumped in it with no hesitation, hoping to find an exit to all of that. Once I jumped in, a force of strong wind tackled me down. I woke up in not my house, not in a city, but rather unfortunately, another forest. I sighed in disappointment. Of course, this was another dark forest. But this time, the dinosaurs were more sneaky and way fierce. I peeked through the darkness once again and found a dinosaur which I think was the Tanius. It was about double my height and 8 meters long. It had very strong legs which looked like it would stomp through the floor and loads and rows of sharp teeth that made me shiver.

Next to that dinosaur was another one. It was a dinosaur called Tarbosaurus. This fierce carnivore was about triple my height and had those two tiny two-fingered hands like the T-rex. This time, they did not notice me, but rather fought with each other. The Tanius scratched the Tarbosaurus, which made it bleed. Then, the Tarbosaurus pierced its tiny claws into the Tanius's chest-like spot, and they both crashed into each other! Then, the two dinosaurs lied down, and started rumbling from the ground. "Wow!" I exclaimed. What seemed like the two unconscious and even maybe unalive dinosaurs suddenly moved a bit. I messed up. The two dinosaurs started to get up and rummage around the place to see where the noise came from. And indeed, they found me. I was just hiding in plain sight, because of the excitement from the discoveries, I couldn't stop giggling. I just couldn't stop. I started to seek for shelter. I looked left and right, but there just wasn't a place for me to hide. I was sweating and couldn't stop shuddering. *What if I died? Will I die in the present, too?* I had to look for a portal to go back to the present. I just had to.

Later then, there was a very bright yellowish thing. It was coming towards Earth! “Boom!” A sound was so loud it almost ruptured my eardrums. My point of view was black and I was very unconscious. The crash had made me temporarily blind and I could not see. After the mess, I had faded into the dark and I could not see, hear, or interact with anything. This “adventure” had turned into a fatal incident...

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Tse, Sharon – 11*

Blustery wind blasted across Shan's face mercilessly, making her to shiver like a leaf.

Shan is one of the most prominent archaeologists in China. She and her team opt to conduct research in the Heilongjiang Snow Town.

Everything was covered with a thick layer of glimmering snow there. The snow-capped traditional Chinese villages looked magnificent under the radiant sunlight, as if it was a winter wonderland. Everyone was engrossed by this captivating scenery.

As they ventured deeper into the captivating town, Shan noticed a discarded village. The group decided to investigate this site as cultural relics had been discovered near there in the past.

The team started digging and found several stone artifacts at first. After digging for 20 metres underground, they discovered a fossil which was particularly enormous. The team immediately called the China's National Cultural Heritage Administration to ask for more manpower. After weeks of hard work, the gigantic fossil was dug out. Shan and her team performed detailed examinations.

"After three months of examination, archaeologists verify that this fossil discovered in Heilongjiang Snow Town belongs to an enormous creature from about 100 million years ago. It is 20 metres long with a wingspan of 15 metres long. The AI simulation restoration confirmed that this is an ancient Chinese Dragonisours." The Central Chinese TV news broadcast. This news shocked the whole world.

Shortly after the discovery of the Chinese Dragonisours's fossil, Shan and her team went to the Heilongjiang Snow Town again to dig deeper. After digging for another two metres, they found a frozen egg with vibrant patterns. Afterwards, Shan decided to take this egg back and used sophisticated method to restore its hatchability and successfully incubated the egg. A baby Chinese Dragonisours was hatched out!

Shan gasped in disbelief as she rubbed her eyes several times to make sure that she wasn't dreaming. Not long after, this astonishing news was reported. After consideration and discussion, the baby Dragonisours was to be raised in Shan's research base.

When the Dragonisours had been just born, it was as big as a person's palm. But as time flew by, its size had become larger and larger, and it was too big to inhabit in Shan's laboratory. Soon afterwards, Shan applied the Dragonisours to a tremendous base where the dragon could continue to grow and develop. The Chinese dragon was elated and pleased to live in such a spacious and comfortable place.

However, an unexpected mishap happened. On tranquil midnight, several macho men crept into the base and caught the Dragonisours with a huge net. They put in a lot of effort and finally stuffed the Dragonisours into their truck.

By the next morning, when Shan went to the base to pay the Dragonisours a visit, the Dragonisours was missing! Shan immediately checked the monitoring system and found that it was captured. She was determined to rescue the Dragonisours.

Shan found truck tracks and followed them until they led to a secret base that conducts cruel experiments on animals. She tiptoed into the base and searched every room. Seeing the poor animals being imprisoned made Shan's heart sank. Shan was bent on saving them.

Finally, Shan found the Chinese Dragonisours locked up inside a cage and looking fatigued. When a technician is preparing to inject anaesthetic into the Dragonisours's body, Shan leapt up and pressed the man onto the floor. She grabbed the needle and injected it into the man's arm and he fell unconscious.

Shan instantly trotted over towards the cage and found that it was locked. Just then, the sound of footsteps approached as she frantically searched for the key. Just when the animal testers were about to barge in, Shan unlocked the cage in a split second and the Dragonisours was free!

But as the animal testers let out a screech of fright, macho men came rushing in and were ready to attack. Just then, the Dragonisours squirted water at them. While they were busy wiping off the water, Shan jumped onto the Dragonisours's back and they flew off through the window.

After returning to the base, Shan called the police to arrest all members who participated in this illegal animal testing. The animals were released back to the wild. Shan and the archaeologists also decided to set free the Chinese Dragonisours.

The Dragonisours was ecstatic and soared in the sky. Shan was contented to see the Dragonisours vanish from sight, but thinking that it got its freedom back made her face light up.

A week later, as Shan was studying an ancient weapon, she heard a strong flapping sound. It turned out to be that the Chinese Dragonisours missed Shan and came to pay a visit to her.

Shan was thrilled to bits and hugged the Dragonisours gently. Her team took this opportunity to conduct a physical checkup and detailed laboratory tests on the Dragonisours. The DNA sequence of the Dragonisours was revealed shortly. With state-of-the-art genetic engineering technique, the laboratory produced a few clones of the prehistoric Dragonisours.

As the number of Dragonisourses increased, the government designated a primeval forest in Heilongjiang as a natural habitat for the Chinese Dragonisours.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Wo, Sum Yau – 10*

Once upon a time, in the 1800's, in the dark forest, there lived two dinosaurs in a cave in Xi'an that are still alive. Xi'an is the capital of Shaanxi Province which is an significant cultural and historical city in China. They met each other and very quickly fell in love. Soon after, they had a baby dinosaur named Tinorosaurus. When Tinorosaurus was one year old, his mother and father heard some footsteps coming their way and saw a lot of Chinese soldiers rushing towards them. They sensed a great danger and quickly hid Tinorosaurus in a very safe place but fair it can only fit one dinosaur. Before the soldiers came, Tinorosaurus' mother and father gave one special sparkling scale each to Tinorosaurus. Even before Tinorosaurus wanted to say I love you to his parents, they were already gone because the soldiers grabbed them to the far away temple as gods to worship. Now Tinorosaurus is 224 years old, he is very strong because he has been training in the past 200 years. He is all set to save his mother and father from the temple.

He first came to this dark river that was very scary, the water was the darkest black colour ink he has ever seen before. If you touch even a small bit of that ink, you will be poisoned and die. Suddenly out of nowhere, there was a phoenix that blew magic bubbles and if you went inside the bubble, you wouldn't need to touch the dark ink. The phoenix said "You will answer my riddle if you want to pass this dark river." the phoenix then asked "How many sides does a bubble have?" Tinorosaurus said "Two sides, an inside and outside." The phoenix soon said " You are right!" Tinorosaurus told the story of him trying to save his parents. The phoenix felt emotional and agreed to be his friend and go on this adventure with him. Then they set off to the next place. The scales secretly grew brighter in Tinorosaurus' pocket.

When they went to the forest called the leap of death, they saw trees moving, grass hopping and most important of all flowers dancing while humming. They thought the trees and other plants were no harm, but when they went closer, the trees started using their branches as hands and attacked the dinosaur and the phoenix. In no time they were already trapped in the cage but out of nowhere a panda started fighting those plants and set the dinosaur and phoenix free from the locked-up cage. The panda said "I'm a panda that has trained kung fu for 50 years, I have mastered all the skills and now will set off to the temple." Tinorosaurus said urgently "Thank you for your help, we are also going to the temple, can we be good friends and go to the temple together?" " Of course." The panda agreed so they set off to the next place. The scale again secretly grew brighter in Tinorosaurus' pocket.

When it was night time they set up a tent and started sleeping. When everyone slept the dinosaur couldn't sleep because he missed his parents. Suddenly a glance of sparkling shimmer came shining on the tent. Tinorosaurus was so curious and wanted to wake everyone up but they fell into a deep sleep. So Tinorosaurus came out from the tent and saw this beautiful tree that was sparkling with a lot of diamonds. He slowly walked closer to the tree and whispered with a deep low and wishful voice "Please let me find my mother and father!" When it was the next morning, they took their things back and were ready to walk to the next place. When they walked the sparkling scale again secretly grew more and more brighter in Tinorosaurus' pocket.

They saw a house that looked normal but when they went in it was all spooky, scary and horrific. The second they sold the house, they wanted to leave so badly but the door magically closed by itself and locked everyone in. So they can only go forward. It was an ancient haunted house, if you go in you can never come out. They still have a chance of escaping so they went through the monsters that eat animals and. Everyone is trapped in a secret room and they need to do a series of challenges to survive but if they did anything wrong they would die. When they came out from the secret room and saw the exit door they rushed to the lights immediately. However, right before they could finally get out of this monstrosity of disaster they were stopped by several big evil ghosts but in a miracle way they worked perfectly with each other and fought off the devils. The dinosaur, the phoenix and the panda were finally out of the haunted house. When they were setting off, the scales in Tinorosaurus' pocket are glowing brighter and brighter.



They walked for three days long and finally saw the secret temple and there were a few monks that were guarding the door. When they finished the conversation for the plan, the panda and phoenix went to the Monk and did some magic tricks to distract the monks, while Tinorosaurus went inside of the temple to save his parents. He knew they were his real parents when he saw the two dinosaur stone statues in the middle of the huge hall because the sparkling scales were glowing like the sun. Tinorosaurus put the sparkling scales each one to his Parents necklace and they finally came back to life. They together fought the monks and went back to the cave and lived happily ever after.

# The Voice Beneath the Fossil

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Wong, Tsz Kwan – 11*

“And that, students, is a *Sinosauropteryx*, which means the China dragon bird. It is the world’s first clearly feathered dinosaur and was unearthed in China. In fact, China is a treasure trove with countless fossils awaiting to be discovered! Also, students, remember we are going on a field trip to one of China’s bamboo forests tomorrow! It is a place where many fossils were discovered and I’m sure you will all enjoy it.” Ms. Lee added before class ended. Jaxton, a young primary student who was fascinated by China, couldn’t wait for the field trip!

The next day, Jaxton brought along his travel supplies such as food & water, map and first aid kits. The air buzzed with excitement as they hopped on the coach. Thirty minutes later, they arrived at an area covered by bamboo and bushes. All students could explore for a while and meet at the entrance. Jaxton could hardly contain his excitement. He caught glimpses of half-buried fossils lying around and strode towards a fossil he had just seen when he heard a faint shrill cry in the distance. Was someone hurt? Jaxton decided to check and headed towards the voice.

He pushed through the bushes and the bamboo, his steps muffled by the leaves beneath him. The voice grew louder with each and every cautious step and finally, it seemed as though the voice came from the bush next to him. Heart pounding, he brushed aside the leaves and gasped. It was a small dinosaur! He couldn’t believe his eyes and quickly fumbled for his well-loved dinosaur book, flipping through the pages frantically. ‘Here it is!’ Jaxton thought to himself, reviewing the description for an *agilisaurus*, except this one seemed smaller, standing at approximately one-third the height of a primary six student. Jaxton stared at it. How was it still alive? Many questions ran through his head. Yet, something about its uneven breaths and the oozing blood from the wound stopped him from running away in fear. He couldn’t bring himself to leave it there and took out his first aid kit. The *agilisaurus* growled as Jaxton wrapped his leg in a bandage but it made no attempt to harm him.

“Thanks for saving me.” the *agilisaurus* murmured. Jaxton froze, staring at the dinosaur in wide-eyed disbelief. Animals were not supposed to talk— yet, here it was, gazing at him with its large eyes. This had to be a dream, he thought. To prove it, he pinched his arm, wincing at the sharp sting. The pain was real. His heart pounded faster as realization washed over him— the creature standing before him was undeniably real. “W—why are you here?” Jaxton stammered, apprehensive but thrilled to talk to a dinosaur in real life. Glancing around nervously, almost convinced it was a prank by his friends, he added, “Are you really an *agilisaurus*?”

“I don’t know how I got here.” It began, its voice trembling with a mix of confusion and sorrow. “I remember fleeing into a cave, desperate to escape the volcanic eruption and the dangerous smoke which separated me from my family. I ran without stopping until I saw a faint light at the end of a tunnel. I chased that light with all the strength I had left and found myself here, in this place.”

Jaxton paused, his hands trembling slightly as he trimmed the bandage to fit the dinosaur’s wound. The dinosaur’s words painted vivid pictures of the old prehistoric world in his mind, one that was mind-blowing yet terrifying at the same time. The idea of listening to first-hand stories about the ancient times from an actual dinosaur’s perspective was too extraordinary to resist. “What was life back then? What did dinosaurs like you do every day? Oh sorry! I didn’t mean to bombard you with questions. I’m just really excited!” Jaxton said.

“For a long time, dinosaurs roamed on Earth. My family and I lived in what people now call China. The lands we wandered around were beautiful, with crystal-clear waters and vibrant green grass. We would stare at the tall bamboo and our young played in a yellow-brown river.” Its tone grew somber as it continued. “However, things feel different these few days I have been here. It is hotter than I remembered, and ponds I saw were stinky.” it said.

The dinosaur looked up at Jaxton, its gaze earnest. “The Earth was once a place where all creatures lived in harmony, each respecting one another’s position in the circle of life. But it seems like those days are slipping away.”

Jaxton nodded slowly, the weight of the *agilisaurus*’ words sinking in. “I’ll do my best,” he whispered whilst carefully finishing bandaging its wound. A newfound responsibility took root in his heart— the responsibility to protect the Earth was not just for dinosaurs of the past but more importantly, for everyone in the present.

The agilisaurus's stomach grumbled. "Aw man! there's only one apple on the ground and I'm starving!" Jaxton knew that the agilisaurus was a herbivore and would not eat him, so he grabbed the apple and handed it over.

"Thanks" the agilisaurus said as he took a large bite "but even small dinosaurs like me have huge appetites, and I would usually eat hundreds of these juicy apples just to be slightly full." Jaxton's jaw dropped. He knew dinosaurs ate a lot, but he didn't know that it was this much! He was learning so many new things every second!

"If you want, I can find you some fruit? I'm sure it won't take long." Jaxton offered eagerly as he ran off to find fruit to satiate its hunger. After a while, Jaxton returned to the same place with plentiful fruit, only to find that the agilisaurus was gone! He looked everywhere, only to find the core of the apple it had eaten, the only thing that told him this fateful encounter wasn't merely a dream...

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Yeung, Joy Nam – 12*

Once upon a time, in a vibrant green valley in China, there lived a little dinosaur named Dino. Dino was not like the other dinosaurs; he was a tiny and energetic dinosaur. With his bright blue feathers and brilliant green wings, he was the fastest flier in the valley and loved to explore the world around him.

Dino dreamed of seeing the Great Bamboo Forest, a magical place whispered about by the older dinosaurs. It was said that the forest was home where the wise old T-Rex named REXY lived. Dino often imagined flying over the forest and chatting with REXY, asking him about the secrets of the dinosaur world.

One morning, while Dino was practicing his flying, he spotted a little girl sitting by the edge of the valley. Her name was Mei, and she was painting pictures of the valley's colourful plants and animals. Interested, Dino fluttered down beside her.

"Hello!" he said. "What are you doing?"

Mei looked up in surprise. "Oh my! A real dinosaur?" she exclaimed, her eyes wide with wonder. "I'm painting a picture of this beautiful valley."

Dino nodded. Mei showed him her painting, which sketch a rainbow of flowers, blue skies, and the magnificent mountains surrounding them. Dino thought the painting was beautiful, but something was missing. "You should paint the Great Bamboo Forest!" he suggested. "It's magical!"

"The Great Bamboo Forest? I wish I could see it!" Mei said.

Dino said "What if I take you there? We can have an adventure!"

Mei said "Really? That would be amazing!"

So, they set off together. Dino flapped his wings, Mei hopped onto his back. Together, they rise through the skies towards the Great Bamboo Forest.

As they flew, Dino shared tales of his home and the dinosaurs that lived there. He told stories of gentle giants, who munched on leaves high in the trees, and the dinosaur, who raced across the plains. Mei listened in wonder, wondering what it would be like to see these magnificent creatures.

Finally, they arrived at the Great Bamboo Forest. Tall bamboos reached high into the sky, and their green leaves made a gentle rustling sound when the wind blew. The ground was filled with colourful wildflowers and green plants.

"Wow! It's more beautiful than I imagined!" Mei said.

Dino flapped his wings proudly. "And wait until you meet REXY! He knows everything about dinosaurs!" He led Mei deeper into the forest, away from the trees that were so tall they obscured the sunlight.

Suddenly, they heard a loud noise. Mei held her breath while Dino looked brave. From behind the bamboos appeared a huge T-Rex! He was enormous, with sharp teeth and a loud growl. But instead of running away, Dino called out, "Hello, REXY!"

REXY turned and smiled. "Young Dino! Who is your friend?"

"This is Mei," Dino introduced her. "I brought her to see you and the Great Bamboo Forest!"

"Welcome, Mei! It's not often I get to meet humans," REXY said with a gentle tone, surprising both Dino and Mei. "What brings you to our magical forest?"

"I wanted to paint it!" Mei replied. "But now I see that it's more than just a place. It's full of life and stories."

Rexy nodded. "Every tree here has a story, every dinosaur has a tale to tell. Would you like to hear one?"

"Yes, please!" Mei said, her excitement bubbling over.

And so, Rexy began to tell tales of ancient times when dinosaurs roamed the earth. He talked about the friendships between different species, how they learned to protect one another and live in harmony. He described grand adventures and narrow escapes, battles with natural forces, and moments of great beauty. Mei listened intently, sketching some of Rexy's stories on her paper.

The sun began to set, casting a golden glow across the valley, Mei knew it was time to go home. "Thank you, Rexy! And thank you, Dino, for bringing me here. This has been the best adventure ever!"

Dino flapped his wings joyfully. "And you can come back anytime.

Mei promised to come back as she held on tight to Dino while he flew into the sky. The wind rushed by them, and memories of the Great Bamboo Forest and Rexy's stories filled her heart.

From that day on, whenever Mei painted, she included dragons and dinosaurs in her art, reminding everyone of the fun they could have and the stories still waiting to be shared. And Dino, the little dinosaur, continued to explore, eager to share every new tale he found with his best friend, Mei.

# Dinosaurs in Modern Life

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Yuen, Lok Sum Jacey – 11*

In a city life of an adventurous girl named Violet people call her V. for short. She loved adventures more than any thing else, however her parents hated that fact about her so V. would always go to the forest alone.

One day, V. went on an adventure again. She slowly went in the forest. But this time she felt that there's something different So she got out her flashlight and kept on going, "Ouch! 'said V. there's something hurting her leg sO she sat down and saw that there's a little crack of egg shell sticking on her leg! She immediately looked at the floor and guess what she found! A dinosaur egg! With no hesitation, she brought back home. She knew that her parents wouldn't let her so she took it. In her room there's already two baby dinosaurs hatching SO she knew how to hatch them. her room.

The next morning when she woke up, they already hatched. She was SO happy that she forgot her parents didn't let her bring things back home from the forest and she took it downstairs to give it to her mom to see! "Oh no! Dinosaurs in modern life? No we mustn't let your dad see!" said Violet's mom. But when she showed her mom it's already too late! The dinosaurs kept on growing. They kept on growing until they couldn't fit in the house, Her mom and dad had no choice but to push them into their garden. "That won't help either, Violet! Why didn't you listen to us and always go to the forest! You going to the forest is already fine why did you bring a dinosaur egg back home?"said her parents. "'Mom? Dad? It's fine I'll try to manage it.'" said V. Violet tried to bring them to some local ZOOS but they all rejected! She has no way out! But one day, a lamp appeared in her room, V. was very curious SO she took it and rubbed it as she thought it's a genie! And what it was? It's portal to somewhere! As she went in the portal, she felt parts of her body fall apart soon she fell asleep. After a long long time of sleeping she finally woke up! But when she woke up she found out that there's a lots of dinosaurs surrounding, her and that might be her biggest problem of her life! "Run! Run!"said the voice In her head. There's just so many questions in head at that time. Since she forgot everything that happened in the portal so she didn't know why she ended up in the past where dinosaurs were.

Thankfully, she had her pack of adventure she always bring when she goes on adventure. She took out her flash light and a compass and kept on walking, Soon she found 2 house out of nowhere. Due to curiosity, she went in but the only thing she saw was a table and two chairs. So she sat down and made the dinosaurs settle. After she sat down there's a dwarf coming into the room with full hands holding a pie, assuming it's for her. "Ah! You're finally here! I've been waiting!"said the dwarf.

"Who exactly are you?" asked Violet. Explained the dwarf, "Don't mind me! I'm just here to explain everything to you. So our master wanted someone to look after her dinosaurs. She spent nights thinking about who is the most suitable person to do that so I went to the forest and see then I saw you wandering in the forest. I knew you were the best person, so I gave the eggs to you So they re yours to keep!" Violet told it about her parents and the modern world. The dwarf suggested that the dinosaurs could stay in the dwarf's house but under one condition, she needed to go back to the past every week just so she can feed, play and make sure that they are not sick. Violet who was left without any choice nodded her head and promised that she will go back every week. Then the dwarf gave her a portal opener and a portal closer so she can travel conviniently:

Violet's story taught us not to be greedy it'll only bring you in trouble. Listening to your parents is also very important!

# Revenge of the Dinosaur Saver

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Zhang, Tianluo – 10*

Ching woke up in fright, fearing that a dinosaur has devoured him. Slowly realising that he was not in danger, he crawled silently out of his little straw hut to scavenge for breakfast. He had not indeed, eaten for three days straight and was desperate for food. He ventured through the coast of Chang Jiang, hoping to find a rabbit or something of that sort. He himself did not know how to grow crops or wheat, and he preferred to eat meat rather than other food.

His entire family has been murdered three years ago, and he was on his own ever since. Many of his neighbours think that a dinosaur killed them, and Ching was convinced. He started to hate dinosaurs as much as everyone else and was determined to vanquish them all once and for all.

Ching didn't have good luck hunting that morning. He had not even stumble upon one single living creature since he woke up. All his energy was consumed, and, a few seconds later, he was lying unconscious on the ground.

Ching woke up in a cave that was about twice the size of his entire village. He slowly gained consciousness and lifted his head up, followed by his body, followed by his legs. Right after he completed the series of movements, he gasped in horror and immediately fell back onto the ground and played dead.

What he saw was completely unexpected. He saw a variety of dinosaurs staring at him, seemingly waiting for him to wake up. Ching thought that the dinosaurs were going to devour him and only leave his bones to spare. He trembled in fear and awaited his fate. A few seconds passed. Nothing happened. Ching slowly curled up his eyelids, and to his great astonishment, A dinosaur yelled in pure happiness, "He's alive! He's alive! The boy is alive!" After hearing this, all the dinosaurs cheered in excitement.

Ching stood up in fear, and mumbled, "Please don't eat me, I... I'm too young to die!" "Why would we eat you, you skinny little...uh... inedible living being?" Replied one of the dinosaurs. "Because you're dinosaurs. And all dinosaurs do is eat us human." "Hey, that's offensive and stereotypical! You humans made the 'eat us human' part up! We never eat human unless they tried to eat us!" Growled a raptor. All the dinosaurs nodded in agreement. "So uh, are you going to eat me?" asked Ching, still trembling. The dinosaurs shook their heads. Ching gave a big sigh of relief.

After gaining back his confidence, Ching questioned the dinosaurs, "So was it you who killed my family?" "No. Absolutely not. None of us would do anything like that. We don't want to cause hatred between our two species." An Allosaurus said in response.

"So who murdered my family?" Asked Ching. "No, better yet, who committed all these murders in our neighbourhood? Quick! I need to tell everyone I know that dinosaurs aren't the real murderers! Before they can invent nuclear weapons wipe out your entire existences!" "What are nuclear weapons?" asked a stegosaurus. "I don't know. It just sounds pretty dangerous."

Ching rushed as fast as he can back to his village, along with his two fellow raptors, for security reasons. They were aiming for the big rock in the centre of their village, to make the announcement, but they stopped midway. Why? They saw a murder taking action. A foreign man with a monstrous face and a monstrosity of a body was strangling an old lady and taking her seashells, which was currency at that time, just like how Cyrus's family was found dead.

Ching's mind rushed back to the day the unfortunate event took place. The day death chose coming for his family.

“Ching, could you please go hunt today? Your dad is ill and you’re pretty well-trained to go alone already.” Asked Ching’s mum. Ching, whose been almost waiting his entire life for this moment, beamed into sky with a joyful sound of delight and replied, “Ooh yeah, baby, I’m ready for this!” Then he ran off into the jungle chanting “let’s go!” Every few seconds. A few minutes along the coast of the crystal-clear lake, Ching realised that he forgot to bring his trusty spear with him, otherwise he wouldn’t be able to hunt. He swore an oath at a grasshopper, then navigated his way back home.

Meanwhile at Ching’s home, things were not going smoothly. The murderer has arrived. He first took care of the two weakest beings in the house, Ching’s mother and sister. Then, he proceeded across the room and strangled the once strong and fearless father, which was now weak and blue, hauntingly vomiting out sickening reddish-green liquid. The murderer then stole all of Ching’s family’s valuable belongings and food, then leaving the crime scene. Just a few minutes later, Ching arrived home for his spear, where he caught sight of the revolting corpses of his family. He tumbled onto the vomit-stained floor, then began to cry in despair.

Ching suddenly felt that his brain was on fire. He gripped his fist so tight that blood started to shoot and leak out. His eyes turned blood red and popped out. His veins struck out throughout his body and his bloody eyes narrowed. He knew that he couldn’t afford to let another family suffer what he has suffered so painfully, and he was so desperate for revenge, that he charged at the murderer with all his might to free the old lady. The murderer fell over with a howl of shock and fear and the old lady was free. His fellow raptors growled fiercely at the murderer, which made the murderer cry like a baby. Ching realised that he not only stopped one murder from happening, but he also stopped all murders from happening in the dinosaur era, reducing pain and suffer from happening over time. He was a hero. Ching was a hero.



# Earth Is The Best Home

*Kowloon Tong School (Primary Section), Zhou, Egbert – 10*

Long long ago, there was a group of magical creatures on Earth, they were called "dinosaurs". Some of them were big, some were small, some had wings, some had horns, we only know about them through some fossils, because there are no dinosaurs on the Earth we live in. We think that dinosaurs as animals of various forms, they can't speak, can't use tools, just like the animal world today. China is a country with rich fossil reserves. Recently, archaeologists discovered a mysterious and shocking dinosaur fossil in China. These dinosaur fossils have brought about earth-shaking changes in our understanding of dinosaurs. So, what secrets are hidden behind this? Let's continue to read on.

This fossil is the latest dinosaur fossil discovered. We call this dinosaur Sinosaurioal, which means "China's secret dinosaur". This dinosaur fossil conveys some important news to us, but it also brings us bad news. There are things like words on this fossil. After research by experts, they believe that it is this letter. The letter says: "Please pay attention to the creatures in the future world. Your world will be hit by the same natural disasters as the dinosaur era in 2035. You must take precautions." This seems to be a letter written to us by creatures hundreds of millions of years ago, and it says, "Our dinosaurs' predictions are very accurate. You started a big flu in 2019. Am I right – Dinosaur Elders?" It's incredible. This is actually a letter written to us by the dinosaur elders, and it is engraved on the bones of the fossil.

Soon on October 20, 2024, we saw creatures from hundreds of millions of years ago – dinosaurs. The dinosaur elders brought many dinosaurs to the time machine. Now, many unknown secrets will be revealed. Dinosaurs can actually speak and think, and their IQ is still very high. Their science has developed to the point where they can travel by time machine, which is too far from the information we know from ancient fossils. They took the initiative to understand humans, communicate with humans, bring ancient high technology, and join scientists in the research and development of protecting the earth.

The Earth has experienced a devastating blow. The dinosaurs hope to protect the Earth and prevent the Earth from disaster in 2035. However, the deterioration of the natural environment, excessive development and destruction make it difficult for the Earth to recover in a short time. How to solve it? The dinosaur elites told us that they found another planet in the universe that is very similar to the Earth. If the disaster in 2035 cannot be avoided, humans can only migrate to that planet on the dinosaurs' spacecraft and live with the dinosaurs that migrated there. Of course, there is no exactly the same home. The migrated planet does not have such a large area of sea and forest as the Earth. The air needs to be purified and the natural environment needs to be developed. Even now, the dinosaurs on the planet will be attacked by other species from time to time, and they have to seek various ways to protect themselves. Without enough water and clean air, survival is more difficult. In the city, people live under a huge protective cover, because of the purified air and water created by technology, everything has become very difficult. Wisdom has given the dinosaurs a new home, and technology has allowed the dinosaurs to continuously invent living tools to ensure an increasingly convenient and comfortable living environment. The dinosaur elders told us that we must avoid destruction, and the Earth is the best home.

This is a long and painful process. Human scientists and dinosaur elites combined science and technology that were hundreds of millions of years apart, measured and improved together, thousands of experiments, hundreds of failures, and finally made the natural environment of the earth better. By replacing the parts of the surface that were in a bad environment with artificially cultivated new air and new vegetation, the places occupied by garbage were cleaned up bit by bit, the sky became bluer, the sea water became clearer, and various indexes finally rose steadily. The oceans

recovered, the forests recovered, the animals gradually increased, and those endangered creatures gradually survived, and everything was getting better and better.

On a sunny day, the dinosaur elders and dinosaur elites left in a time machine. They used their wisdom and love to save the earth and avoid another harm to the earth. Their visit also made people deeply aware of the importance of protecting their homes. Love the earth, cherish the earth, the earth is the best home, this is what the dinosaur elders told us.

# The Hidden Kingdom

*Maryknoll Convent School (Primary Section), Fung, Ching Kiu Evelyne – 11*

My name is Jack, and I am a hunter from China. I come from a very poor family, and last month, my mother fell seriously ill. We need a lot of money for her treatment, but we just simply do not have enough. Recently, China has been making significant dinosaur fossil discoveries, and I heard that just one fossil could be sold for a fortune.

Desperate to help my mother, I decided to try my luck at digging for one myself. Most fossils have been found in Liaoning, so I packed a bag and set off for the region in search of something valuable and life changing.

I went to Liaoning by train. It was around midnight when I arrived. As I stepped off the train, there were no other people in the area at that time. Wanting to save money, I did not book a hotel room. The night was bitterly cold, and the full moon cast an eerie glow over the landscape, but it was still unusually dark. As I wandered through the rocky terrain, suddenly, the ground trembled beneath my feet, and an earth-shaking roar echoed through the night and shook the earth beneath my feet. Startled, I took a step back—and before I realized it, I plummeted into a deep hole that I swear had not been there just a moment ago.

When I woke up, I found myself in what seemed like an underground kingdom—a world unlike anything I had ever imagined. I did not even know how long I was out for. The air was crisp and fresh, and instead of the sun, a glowing red orb hung in the sky, lighting up the strange landscape. All around me were creatures that should not exist: dinosaurs, all roaming freely around. There were other extinct species there too. It was a mesmerizing and breathtaking sight, but I knew I could not stay there. I had to escape before getting eaten by the dinosaurs! As I was taking it all in, suddenly, a massive shadow loomed over me. I turned around. My heart pounded to see a colossal dinosaur moving towards me! Panicked, I ran for dear life. I was worried that I would never see my mum again. I ran into a blue, glittering, beautiful cave. I was still worried if the dinosaur would continue its chase after me, but then I remembered: this species wasn't known for its speed! I slowed down and, to my relief, it did not chase me.

Suddenly, a deep rumble echoed through the cave and the walls began to crack. Stones pounded on me, I dash out as fast as I could. As I caught my breath, reality struck me—I was trapped underground, and no one knew where I was! I was hoping someone would eventually realise that I went missing but I hadn't booked a hotel, and no one would even know I was here! Desperately, I scanned the sky and spotted the hole I had fallen through. However, to my horror, it was growing smaller by the second! I realized that the hole must only have opened due to the full moon. If I wanted to escape, I would have to survive until the next full moon.

I have spent weeks in this strange world, surviving by preying on smaller creatures in the area, using the skills I had mastered as a hunter. I crafted a shelter from sticks and wood. Patiently waiting for my next chance to escape. Each day felt longer than the last, but I didn't give up, I could not! Finally, after what felt like an eternity, the full moon returned, and the hole opened once more. I didn't waste any time. Climbing the walls with all the strength I had left, I reached the opening and pulled myself out. I was back, free at last, standing under the familiar sky of the surface of dear Mother Earth.

After I had escaped, I made a decision. I would keep the underground kingdom a secret. If humans discovered it, they would surely exploit it, just as they've done to many other parts of the Earth. I couldn't let that happen. We have already caused so much damage to the environment, and I realized that protecting this hidden world was more important than any fossil or treasure that I could ever find. Even though it was tempting, I decided it was the right thing to do.

Then, I finally remembered what I came here to do in the first place: to save my mother! I went through all of that trouble for this, I could not go back empty handed! As I rummaged through the cloth of my pocket, my fingers

brushed against something cool and metallic. Pulling it out, I looked at the glinting object in the dim light. It was shining as bright as the sun! The gem felt heavier than I expected, a weight that suggested significance. My heart raced as I turned it around in my hand, the realization dawning slowly. In that moment, a flicker of hope ignited within me, intertwining with the worry that had settled in my chest for so long. This small thing, seemingly ordinary, held the potential to change everything. I could almost hear my mother's laughter, a distant echo that urged me to hold on, to believe. But with that hope came a tide of questions—what did I want to do with this? The path ahead was unclear, but its possibilities shimmered like the object in my palm.

Back home, I used the gem to save my mother, and I kept the underground kingdom a secret. Although I'll never forget the incredible world I discovered, I hope it remains hidden, untouched, and safe from the hands of those who would destroy it. After all, I realized that some treasures are worth more than money. Some are meant to be protected, not possessed.

# A Dinosaur Tale—My Special Friend from China

*Maryknoll Convent School (Primary Section), Ho, Yau Ka Emma – 10*

In Year 2075, the first time machine was invented.

College students, Amy Chan and Andy Lee, were fascinated. They found that the time machine was guarded by the watchful eyes of Professor Leung who taught them paleontology. “Could you bring us to the period in China when there were dinosaurs like Mamenchisaurus and Sinosauropteryx?” Amy and Andy asked sincerely. “I’m about to publish a book on China’s dinosaurs. You may come along on the journey if you could be my assistant.” Professor Leung replied.

Amy and Andy got into the time machine. Professor Leung then pressed a button and selected the Jurassic period around Chongqing in China. On their way, the time machine was hit a time barrier and it shook and rumbled. Luckily, they arrived safely. As they came out from the time machine and looked around, they were astonished by the stunning landscape. There was a sparkling stream surrounded by bushes and ferns. Silvery currents dancing over smooth stones.

“Oh no! An important part of the engine is missing!” exclaimed Andy as he examined the time machine. “When we hit the time barrier, we must have broken the titanium. We must find a replacement here or we’ll never get home!”. Professor Leung told them not to worry because they could find a replacement for now. Then, she gave each of them a special pill so that they could communicate with animals.

Just then, an enormous dinosaur with a long neck stomped out. Amy pointed at the dinosaur and whispered, “That’s a Mamensaurus!” Andy waved and talked to the friendly dinosaur. “Hello! We’re people from the future. We broke our machine. Do you know a place where there are lots of rocks so we can find a replacement?” Andy said. The long-necked giant bent down and stared at the little creatures with her curious small eyes. “Yes, I do! Let me introduce myself first. My name is Mimi and I’m a Mamenchisaurus. Please sit on my back. I can give you a ride” Mimi said, as she bent down her neck to the ground. “Are you ready?” said Mimi. “Yes!” cheered the group. As Mimi lifted up her neck slowly, Amy couldn’t believe her eyes. The view was amazing. “You’re lucky we’re not sitting on her neck. You might’ve fallen 20-feet high!” laughed Professor Leung.

When Amy and Andy sat on Mimi’s body, they could feel her body was surprisingly warm, but the skin was dry like a lizard with bumpy scales. “Look up!” called Mimi. The group saw a group of pterodactyls flying above their heads. When they flapped their wings, the sky was shaded. “Oh my God, I was like travelling through a long dark tunnel!” Amy said excitedly.

“Here we are!” said Mimi while using her head to point at a rocky area. Andy replied, “Thank you!”. Professor Leung whispered, “Watch out for other dinosaurs. I can see three-toed footprints on the ground. Search quickly, not all dinosaurs are as nice as Mimi.” “Yes, we will!” Amy and Andy replied.

“Look! This rock is exactly what we need!” said Andy as he held up a granitic rock. Suddenly, a gigantic dinosaur walked towards the group. It was a large theropod standing with 2 back feet on the ground. “That’s a Yangchuanosaurus! It is a carnivore and it is the main predator of the Mamenchisaurus!” Professor Leung said with a shaky voice. “Meat... Just what I need. And look what’s here! Three little appetisers that I’ve never tasted before. Great!” The Yangchuanosaurus licked his lip and started chasing them.

“Help! Help!” All the people screamed at the top of their lungs while they ran as quickly as their legs could carry them towards the time machine. Just when Andy was about to open the flap to fix the machine, the Yangchuanosaurus was about to catch up with them. It knocked Andy down with his short forelimbs. Its jaw was wide open like a crocodile snap. “Roar...Roar...I’m going to eat you!” the Yangchuanosaurus yelled. The sound was as loud as thunder. At this moment, Mimi rushed out and blocked the Yangchuanosaurus. The Yangchuanosaurus bit Mimi on her neck and blood started pouring out. “Run! Run!” Mimi screamed in pain. Andy quickly fixed the machine with his skilful hands and the group all rushed into the cabin of the time machine. “Go!” Mimi gasped.

In the time machine, all the people felt sad for their new friend. “Mimi was so nice. I can’t believe that she tried to save us.” Amy said with a heavy heart. The whole room was filled with sadness. “But if she wasn’t so selfless, we all wouldn’t have survived. We should be grateful.” Professor Leung replied. “Andy nodded his head quietly and said,” I hope she’ll be fine.”

When the group arrived, they were surprised to find that the time hadn’t changed at all since they left. “Oh! Although the time hasn’t changed at all, we’ve learned a very important lesson,” Andy said. “Yes, we learned that we shouldn’t meddle with time because it will only lead to unnecessary ripples in others’ lives.” Amy replied. Professor Leung nodded, “You are right! We should use the time machines or any new inventions cautiously, even purely for getting useful information. After all, we don’t want to cause new troubles to the past era or our next generation.” “Thanks Professor Leung! I learned a lot about dinosaurs.” Andy said, “I think I want to be a palaeontologist.” “Really? Then you’ll need to work hard.” Professor Leung replied. As they walked back home, they all kept this little secret in their heart.

# The Exhibition

*Maryknoll Convent School (Primary Section), Huang, Zunyi Natalie – 10*

*Beijing · China*

It all started when her shovel hit something hard. Her mother had made her go out to shovel snow in the backyard. It was a bone. She put it next to her and continued to build. A few minutes later, her shovel hit another bone. Then another and another. Soon she had a pile of bones next to her. Her shovel hit something big and hard. She started digging. After a while, Christina saw a huge head. “It looks like it was from a long time ago, so it should be a fossil,” she thought. She needed to think. Quickly she finished shovelling. She went into the house with the bones.

At her bedroom everything seemed to fall into place. These bones were from a dinosaur. She decided to put all the bones back into her cupboard. Tomorrow she would go to the library to research about it.

The next morning, at the library, Christina started researching about dinosaurs. She brought the dinosaur bones with her. She decided to see if there were more bones in the backyard. Maybe she could piece everything together and create an exhibition using her old tent, the one that was very big.

The next morning, she volunteered to shovel more snow in the backyard. Her mother gave her a weird look but still let her do so.

As expected, her shovel hit a bone. Soon she had a small pile of bones next to her. Her mother looked out of the window and saw the pile, and asked her what Christina was doing. “I’m going to create an exhibition using my old tent,” she said, “Half of the money I make will be mine, and the rest will be given to the charity.” Instead of scolding her, her mother agreed and said that it was perfect for helping the community. She even said she would help her.

After lunch, Christina started piecing together all the bones. It wasn’t long before she realised that it was nothing like she’d ever seen before. It was a baby dinosaur, so it was small and able to fit into her bedroom. It seemed like she had discovered a new species! She imagined her name on websites, newspapers, magazines and maybe even on television. She thought about the headline: Christina Elizabeth Roth finds new Chinese dinosaur species! She would become famous! She thought of a name. Christinasaur? Tina–rex? Rothosaur? She wrote it all down on a piece of paper.

The next day, she woke up to find her dog, Fluffy chewing on a dinosaur bone. Frantic, she shoed Fluffy out of her bedroom. She picked up the bone. It had marks on it. She looked around and saw that almost all the bones had marks on it. Some even broke into pieces.

She wasn’t going to let this make her dream go away. She tried to use duct tape to tape the broken pieces together. Luckily it held unless she moved it. Then she went out to the backyard and put her tent in a corner and put a table in it.

The next few days were the same. Piece together the bones, eat lunch, piece bones together again, eat dinner, move the pieces she had pieced together to the table in the tent. She was just finishing when she realised that she needed to make sure no one touched it or else it would break.

The next day, her mother helped her post flyers everywhere in town. In the afternoon, they decorated the tent with ornaments to make it look better. Her mother helped her make up some rules.

Today was the opening day. She stood nervously at the door to the tent. Soon she saw some of her classmates and friends running towards her. She grinned. Her mother helped sell tickets to everyone. Christina stood inside the tent and introduced the dinosaur. Soon she saw people lining up in front of the tent. She smiled and got ready to work.



# From Dinosaurs to Chickens

*Maryknoll Convent School (Primary Section), Song, Pui Ka – 10*

“Whoa! Look at this dinosaur fossil, it must be millions, –no, billions of years old !” Marina said.

“ And it’s a Fujianvenator! It must have been a majestic creature before!” Oliver, Marina’s little brother, said, jumping up and down excitedly.

“Calm down, you two! Stop going crazy over a dinosaur fossil. It’s not like you’ve never seen one before!”sighed Siana, the oldest child of the Neuman family. “Besides, didn’t you know that chickens are descendants of dinosaurs ? So technically, you’re eating a modern–day dinosaur every week.”

“ Right, as if that’s possible! Those silly chickens, dinosaurs ? The whole idea is nonsense! Hahahaha!” The two younger kids burst into laughter.

Siana sighed, returning to texting her friends on her phone, feeling that explaining it would be a waste of time. They wouldn’t believe her anyways.

Before long, the sun began to set , and the children had to go back home. Over a dinner of chicken wings and fries, they patted their stomachs with satisfaction, though a hint of curiosity lingered about whether chickens were truly descendants of dinosaurs . Exhausted,the children dragged their tired bodies to the bathroom to shower and brush their teeth. Finally, it was time for bed.

Marina couldn’t sleep. She tossed and turned,replaying the day's events . They had woken up early to visit the museum and see the dinosaur fossils. There were fossils of the Tyrannosaurus, Spinosaurus, Triceratops, and many more, but they were not as exciting as the Fujianvenator!

As she thought about it, Marina noticed that there was something sparkling on her desk.What could it be?

Fear coursed through Marina, but curiosity won out.She got off her bed and approached the glowing object.As she touched it, the entire world began to twist and spin. Then, everything went black.

When Marina opened her eyes slowly, she found herself lying on muddy ground.Feeling disgusted, she immediately stood up though she was still dizzy from faint. Wobbling, she grasped something smooth and soft for support. Looking up, she gasped– it was an magnificent creature she was holding on to !

“Ahhhh! Help! Someone please help me!” she cried, only to realise there were no other humans in this strange land.

“Don’t worry, I won’t eat you or hurt you ,” said the creature .

The creature could talk! Marina was taken aback but remained silent, studying it.It resembled a bird,with feathers, wings,and a beak, but it also had a long, traditional dinosaur tail.

“ What are you? Where am I? How can I go back home?” Marina asked.

“ Ah yes! I forgot to introduce myself. I am a dinosaur , and you are now in the Late Jurassic Period. Welcome, friend!” The creature said politely.

“ Wait, WHAT? What did you just say?” Marina was shocked. Did she actually just hear that creature say that it was the Late Jurassic Period and that it was a dinosaur ?

“ I said that I am a dinosaur , and you are now in the Late Jurassic Period. Please try to pay attention to what I say.”

It was a lot to take in. How did she end up here? Marina recalled reading time travel stories, where characters touched special objects and arrived in different eras. Maybe she had time—travelled when she touched the glowing object. That would explain everything.

Despite her fear, Marina was amazed by the dinosaur’s majestic appearance. Though the swampy environment was a bit disgusting, she was fascinated by the vibrant home of the dinosaur. The ancient ecosystem with loads of reptiles and marine creatures swimming around that she read from books became real.

“Where am I going to stay tonight?” Marina wondered.

As if reading her mind, the dinosaur told Marina it had prepared a bed of grass for her to sleep on. Relief washed over her at the thought of not having to sleep on the muddy ground.

That night, as she lay on the bed of grass and thoughts swirled in her mind. Today, they had visited the dinosaur fossil museum. Was it mere coincidence that she was transported to the Late Jurassic Period and met the dinosaur? Or was this set up on purpose? But Marina was tired, and soon drifted off to sleep.

The next few days passed in a blur, Marina and the Fujianvenator spent their mornings catching fish for meals, exchanging stories about their lives. The Fujianvenator was fascinated to learn that humans didn’t have to catch their own food , they could simply exchange it for metal. Marina listened intently as the dinosaur expressed worry about food scarcity and how it’s offspring were becoming smaller and smaller .

One day, The dinosaur offered to take Marina to visit it’s children, and she was very excited.

On that day, she woke up early, brimming with anticipation. When they arrived, Marina was shocked—the dinosaurs looked just like chickens!

“ Amazing, isn’t it?” The dinosaur asked.

“ Yeah,” replied Marina, her attention suddenly drawn to a sparkling object in the sun. “ And I think it’s time for me to go home. Goodbye, dinosaur!

Marina touched the sparkling object, and everything went black. When she opened her eyes, she was back in her bed. Was it all just a dream? As she pondered this, something furry tickled her neck—it was a dinosaur feather!

Marina jumped out of bed and started to do research. She wanted to learn more about the Fujianvenator. She quickly scoured the internet for information about its habitat, diet, and behaviour. As she clicked through the pages, her heart raced. Suddenly, she saw a familiar face on the screen— it was the Fujianvenator!

Realizing the connection between her adventure and the dinosaur sparked a thrill of curiosity. Marina knew she wouldn't tell anyone about her journey. It was her secret, a hidden treasure that ignited her passion for science.

As she gazed at the feather, she smiled, knowing that this adventure was just the beginning. The world of dinosaurs was now a part of her story, and she couldn't wait to learn more.

# A Nightmarish Story of Charlie

*Marymount Primary School, Chan, Sum Yee Charlotte – 9*

One day, there was a boy named Charlie, his parents give him a perfume. The perfume smells good so he called his friends to come over to show off. The door bell rang and his friends had come. Charlie showed off the perfume and sprayed to his friends, his friends smelled and said “It was the bee’s knees!” Charlie kept on spraying and then the mist filled up the room and then a mysteries mirror appeared they didn’t notice when they are asking about the story of the perfume. They played a game and accidentally fell into the mirror.

They went before a kingdom and a group of soldiers walked in front of them, they moaned and said “Oh! It was a stroke of good luck for us to find a group of teenage boys. our King needs help! We need more people to join our battle.” Boooby, (with three Os) was one of the boys, horrified and said’ A battle? Oh no! We are having tough luck.” With the boy’s shivering body and a horrified face, they all understood and ran away.

They ran and ran until they got the heat stroke. And one of them luckily did not get it, one saw a witch having fun with the worm. It made his skin crawled. Charlie wanted to ask him for help but it was too gross so he didn’t. Instead, he turned around and saw a scary looking cave. He thought he might find some gold and could change it for clean refreshing water for his friends to keep hydrated.

Then, he went to the cave and found nothing but stones, spiders and a zombie behind him. He didn’t notice it until it bit him several times caused him to make dozens of sounds of chilling moan of pain. One of the boys was a very good designer, he saw a zombie skin before his friends noticed he was missing. He designed a costume to pretend to be a zombie to save his friends. He knew somewhere must had a trap. He bravely saved the boy that had been bitten several times. The boy was happy and together they went to save the other friends.

They saw a pond and put their hands together to form a bowl. They drank some water and brought some for their friends. After that, they all got better and started their way to get out again.

They walked for miles and suddenly a fairy appeared in front of them. They were scared and the fairy said “Don’t worry! I know where you want to go! You see, far in the mountains, there is a witch living, you can ask her if you want to back home.”

After all that talking, the fairy vanished. They started their way to the mountains. The mountain was full of danger. They walked to the mountains and saw a lion sleeping. One of them whispered, “We need to sneak to go!”. Together, they slowly sneaked beside the lion. After the lion, they saw venom snake. The snake chased and wanted to swallow them. Until they jumped in a pond. And the venom snake did not know how to swim so they were safe. They walked up the mountains and eventually they found the witch’s house but..... there is a password!!!! They couldn’t think about the solution to go in but they saw a camera beside the door. They yelled loud as thunder that the witch came out of the house and said “Why would you little fools do that outside of my house! You know there is a camera next to it! I can hear and watch your every moment and word!” They said “Oh! Please help us! We are from another world. They fairy told us only you can help!” The witch said “If you can help me singing songs to lore the giant bird down the tree, then I will help you. At the same time, I will work on the spaceship that can bring you home.” The boys agreed and started singing. After several attempts and fail, they did it finally. And the witch finished the spaceship at the same time. The witch went out to the boys and said “Good! the bird will be the engine of the spaceship. It flies very fast. Now your rewards!” Leading them to the spaceship, the witch said “Here is my finished spaceship. You can use it whenever you want.” They entered the spaceship, thankfully said goodbye and flew away. After hours, they arrived at Charlie’s room.

Suddenly, Charlie heard his mum yelled and said “Wake up, wake up! You’re already late.” Charlie thought “Oh, what a dream! It scares me!”

# Titanosorous Troubles

*Marymount Primary School, Le Nabasque, Nora Corinne Lily – 9*

Professor Violet Framble is a reputable palaeontologist and patron at the Natural History Museum in London. She is well known for her significant fossil discoveries over the past decade. She also teaches at Oxford University and mentors aspiring palaeontologists.

This summer, Professor Framble received funding to travel to Jiangxi, China, to study a titanosaur fossil located 100 miles from the city center. She was accompanied by her student, Alexa McGonagall, and they both hoped to search for unfound fossils during their trip.

Due to their overwhelming excitement, Professor Framble and Alexa decided to cancel a hotel stay in the city and set up a tent near the fossil site for saving the travelling time. Despite Professor Framble's many skills, setting up a tent is not one of them. After several failed attempts in a remote desert area, Alex proposed to handle the task. Just as Alexa was finishing up, she spotted a group of uniformed men surrounding a large dark tent and suggested they investigate.

Professor Framble asked an officer in Mandarin about the situation. She translated for Alexa: "Great news! This is THE titanosaur fossil we came for, but the officer lacks details. The Chief over there knows more." Excited, Alexa said, "Let's go ask him!"

They approached the Chief, who ended a phone call upon noticing them. "Hello, I'm Chief Kendall. Who are you?" he asked.

"Hello, Chief Kendall. I'm Professor Framble, a palaeontologist from Oxford University, and this is my student, Alexa. We're here to study the fossil. One of your guards..."

The Chief cleared his throat. "Professor Framble? We did not expect you to arrive so soon! The guards—of course! Since this is a newly discovered fossil of a titanosaurus, it would obviously be very valuable to many curious minds. Wealthy individuals might not hesitate to hire private thieves to steal it, which is why we have guards on patrol to protect it." Professor Framble and Alexa exchanged confused looks. "Oh, is that so?" Professor Framble replied.

Suddenly, the Chief's phone rang. He looked at the caller ID and said, "I need to take this. Please head back to your hotel; this isn't a safe place to stay."

"Well, that wasn't helpful at all," Professor Framble said, frowning.

"What do you mean?" asked Alexa.

Professor Framble replied, "The way he mentioned the possibility of thieves... but that doesn't matter; tomorrow we start our study and fossil hunt!"

Once they returned to their fragile and wobbly tent, they turned in early for the night.

In the middle of the night, Alexa woke up thirsty. Noticing Professor Framble's empty bed, she stepped outside and found her leaning against a rock, gazing at the night sky, deep in thought.

Alexa tapped Professor Framble on the shoulder, startling her. "Can't sleep either?" asked Alexa. "I have this uneasy feeling. Maybe a walk would help?" Professor Framble suggested. Alexa agreed.

As they walked in silence for a few minutes, they suddenly heard a voice. "Quick!" hissed Professor Framble as she pulled Alexa behind a rock. The voice continued, "Yes, boss. The— I mean, the target is secure. Tomorrow, when the museum trucks arrive, they will think it's museum staff driving, but it's actually my hire." The caller finished speaking shortly, as the Chief had returned to his tent.

Professor Framble counted to ten before pulling Alexa back into the tent. "The Chief is working for someone who wants to steal the fossil!" Professor Framble shouted. "What?!", Alexa responded anxiously. "Yes, but we can stop this if we reach that truck tomorrow!"

The next day, they woke up early and hid behind a few large rocks, waiting for the truck to arrive. At noon, a truck pulled up, and a few men in uniforms began loading a fossil into it. Professor Framble jumped into action. "Stop! This truck is not from the museum!" she yelled. Everyone turned to look at her, and the Chief's face turned livid. "What nonsense are you talking about?" he demanded. Professor Framble shouted, "Check if the driver is from the museum!"

The guards approached the driver to check his credentials. The driver nervously jumped and confessed, "You're right! I work for Mr. Bob Kako, the billionaire!" One of the guards shouted, "Arrest him!" The guards rushed to the truck and seized the driver.

Taking this chance, Alexa jumped out and said, "Arrest the Chief! He's working for Mr. Kako too! Last night, we overheard him plotting with Mr. Kako to steal the fossil!"

She showed a recording from her watch that captured the conversation. As the recording played, everyone gasped. The guards arrested the Chief, who cried, "No, no!"

Even though Professor Framble and Alexa did not find a new fossil during their trip to China, they felt proud to have helped save one from bad people. They returned to England feeling accomplished, as if like they had discovered a new fossil.

# Candy Land Adventures

*Marymount Primary School, Leung, Wing Yan Gweneth – 9*

In the afternoon, Izzy and her friends Annabelle and Lisa were playing in her house. Then, her mother came home from shopping and gave them a candy as big as a carton of chocolate milk. That was the biggest candy Izzy, Annabelle and Lisa have ever seen! The brand was ChocoMunch, and the wrapper was very sparkly and colourful. They opened the wrapper and started eating. As they were happily munching, a small hole started growing on the floor. It grew bigger with every bite they took. Just when they noticed the hole, it was too late – they got sucked in it and disappeared.

A few moments later, they landed on an enchanted place. There was a sign that read “Candy Land”. “Candy Land, I’ve never heard of it”, Izzy wondered as she twirled her long hair. While Izzy was investigating, Lisa accidentally got tripped by a gummy stone and ended up licking the floor. “The floor is so yummy!” she exclaimed and gave the floor a few more licks. With the unexpected discovery, the three friends started munching on everything they saw. Izzy ate a pine tree, and it tasted like Kisses Chocolate. Annabelle ate a chewy daisy gummy, and Lisa drank bubble tea from the waterfall.

After a while, the trio continued their journey. They saw the first house in Candy Land. It was made of different flavours of Sugus blocks, so it is multi-coloured. Izzy jumped on the roof and took a big bite. It was so yummy that she gobbled up the whole chimney in one bite! Lisa ran into the garden and licked the whipped cream bushes. She liked it so much that she buried her face in the cream. Annabelle crashed right into the door made of a bar of dark chocolate. It was very thick and bitter, just as she liked.

“It’s time for us to move on, we need to find a way out.” Annabelle reminded the group as she pointed to her watch. As much as they would like to gobble down the whole house, the group carried on reluctantly. The girls hiked up a mountain which is called Mount Lolly. There were small lolly stones along the way and Annabelle even managed to find a Cotton Thingy Thingamabob. It was a small magical animal with a thick bushy tail and a pom-pom body. They were so intrigued that they followed the Thingamabob for a long while and didn’t realize that they were entering a dark ancient gummy worm cave.

The cave was dark and damp. The further they went, the spookier it got. Suddenly, the Cotton Thingy Thingamabob disappeared in the dark cave, leaving the girls frightened. All of a sudden, they started hearing a low pitch oozing that kept echoing through the cave. Afterwards, the girls heard a strange thumping and wiggling sound coming from the deeper part of the cave. It sounded like a thousand cows marching at them. “Attack!” the girls heard a voice shouting towards them. A gummy worm as big as a cruise ship was dashing towards them! The trio screamed with fright and Lisa jumped a little. They ran for their lives, but the gummy worm was faster. Suddenly, the wrapper from the chocolate they ate earlier, flew out of Lisa’s pocket. The wrapper landed right between the worms and the girls; and trapped the gummy worm by forming a net. “Whew, that was close!” panted Annabelle. “Let’s get out of here!” Izzy directed the girls to continue their search for the exit portal.

The trio walked through the forest. It felt like a thousand eyes were following them in the bushes. All of a sudden, a troop of Cotton Thingy Thingamabob marched out of the bushes. “Run! It is a bad omen. It led us to the gummy worm cave!” Lisa alarmed her friends. They ran for their lives again. Just when they thought they’ve lost the troop, a Witch appeared before their eyes standing in front of 10 million Cotton Thingy Thingamabobs behind her. As the girls were trying to flee, the Witch and the troop began throwing millions of jellybeans at the girls. The Witch shouted with anger that the girls had eaten her house. The trio immediately apologized to the Witch and offered to help rebuild the Witch’s house. After many hours of hardwork, the trio managed to redesign the roof and chimney



with Toblerone and gave the front door a facelift with M&Ms. The Witch was very pleased with the new design and agreed to open an exit portal for the girls to return to the real world.

With one last lick of the Candy Land ground, the girls magically returned to Izzy's house, just in time to join Izzy's family for dinner. The girls looked at each other with glee.

# King Arzy and Kice

*Marymount Primary School, Yu, Sze Ching – 10*

Many centuries ago, when the earth was still young and dinosaurs still roamed freely on land, they were ruled by a lazy and foolish king – King Arzy. He was selfish and arrogant as he was oblivious to the pleas of the dinosaurs and spent his days feasting and sleeping. All the dinosaurs pretended to worship to him but secretly, they all hoped someone would eventually replace him.

One of the dinosaurs, Kice, was wise and kind. He had turquoise scales and dark green eyes. He hated King Arzy and believed that he could be a better king and would never repeat the same mistakes. However, no matter how lazy King Arzy was, he was powerful, and all those who challenged him were brutally killed. Still, Kice was determined to take over.

Therefore, Kice hosted a meeting with the other villagers. The villagers roared for a better king, someone who was not like King Arzy and cared for other dinosaurs' needs. They were put to a vote and Kice won. They all nodded their approval. "How shall we overthrow King Arzy?" Someone asked. Suddenly, a guard burst in, he held a spear at one's throat, handcuffed another, and killed the ones who were too stubborn. "Anyone who plots against King Arzy will be killed!" He roared, scorching another dinosaur.

After that, there were no more meetings as all the villagers were scared of being imprisoned or executed. Kice was furious. He paced around, thinking of ideas. Without noticing, he wandered into the forest. Sighing, he turned and was about to leave when he heard a shriek. "Help! Anybody help! Please don't eat me! Mercy!"

Kice rounded around and entered a clearing. He saw King Arzy and some other subjects. King Arzy had brownish scales and a huge belly, his eyes were a fierce amber color. A golden crown sat lopsided on his head. In his claws was a tiny fairy screaming.

King Arzy lifted his claws and opened his mouth so wide that you could see his nasty yellow teeth. "Stop!" Kice yelled, stepping up. "Attacking innocent animals and eating them—" He glanced at the poor fairy, "Are illegal! You set the law yourself!" King Arzy looked at Kice, "Oh well," He yawned, "I'm tired of eating the regulars. I'm trying a new recipe today!"

Kice locked eyes with King Arzy, "You are lazy, arrogant, and foolish! All the rules you made are broken by you. You never help anybody, you kill innocent dinosaurs for *fun*! No wonder no one likes you! Everyone secretly hopes for a better king, and I can be it! Unlike you! And I won't let you eat her!"

After a moment, King Arzy roared so loudly that it nearly pierced Kice's eardrums. He roared again and pounced on Kice. Just like that, a dinosaur battle began. After a few minutes of clawing and skull bashing and tail throwing though, King Arzy seemed to realize that a tiny fairy who's not even worth a tiny bite wasn't worth this much trouble. "I'll be back," He warned. Scowling, he limped away, his subjects trailing after him.

The fairy flew to Kice's side and with a flick of her wrist, healed his injuries, and said, "My friend! Thank you for saving me! That dinosaur was an evil and nasty one. Foolish and arrogant! The worst! I never expected you to go through all these for me! What can I do to repay your kindness? I'd gladly do anything for you!"

Kice thought hard and asked, "Do you think you can give the other villagers and me a pair of wings each?" The fairy nodded eagerly. "Oh, and if you catch my drift, go give King Arzy a lesson."

With that, they left separately. The next morning, when Kice woke up, he discovered he had a pair of wings! Now, the other villagers and Kice could discuss peacefully.

Back in the palace, King Arzy was being humiliated. He was wrapped in ropes and the fairy had once again appeared to teach him a lesson. The fairy giggled as soft feathers sprouted on King Arzy's body. However, she hadn't paid attention to his binds coming loose. Suddenly, King Arzy leapt up and grabbed the fairy; the fairy's eyes widened in terror. "Now I'll really eat you!" He roared. "Or maybe, tell me everything and I'll spare your life." Squeaking in

terror, the fairy told King Arzy everything. King Arzy thought for a moment. “Give me a pair of wings then,” he said, “And feathers for them too!”

In addition, King Arzy had one last request. “Put a volcano that will erupt at midnight in the middle of the village.” “That way they’ll know who’s king and what will happen if they dare plot against the king!” That night, the humiliated dinosaurs that secretly came back from their meeting hid inside their houses, not wanting anybody to see their feathers. As for Kice, he couldn’t find the fairy.

Just before midnight, King Arzy and his subjects crept out and flew a good thousand miles before settling down. Suddenly, a giant volcano rose up in the middle of the village. The villagers cried in horror and flapped their wings once they realized what it was. King Arzy was entertained as he watched everyone flying away in desperation. Then the lava flew closer, and all the dinosaurs screamed in agony as they were engulfed.

However, King Arzy hadn’t paid attention and the lava hadn’t stopped. His subjects roared in alarm. When King Arzy finally realized, it was too late, an entire wave of lava and heat washed over him. His whole body crumpled and burning, hot steam rising up. He screamed in excruciating pain, and a second later, he was never heard again.

And that is why dinosaurs are extinct now. Once the cry of King Arzy, the last cry of the dinosaurs, sounded, nobody has seen a feathered dinosaur beating its wings in the light ever again.

# Chinese Dinosaur Tales

*Nord Anglia International School Hong Kong, Kim, Wujoon – 10*

68 million years ago in the current location of China, there was a dinosaur kingdom that had spread over 5000 km. The dinosaurs lived together in harmony, helping each other. There was something extraordinary about this thriving kingdom. Dinosaurs from all periods, the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous, were there including the Titanosaurus and the Sinosauropteryx. Their capital, Liaoning, was a place with winding valleys, crystal clear rivers and lush forests with birds singing in euphony. It is a perfect place just for the Dinos to live.

However, it wasn't the happiest place ever. The Dinos were constantly being bossed around by the legendary Nian, a beast with razor-sharp teeth, bulging, angry eyes and a body length of over 10 feet. The all-mighty beast forced them to work day and night, torturing the dinosaurs in every possible way it could.

One day, a baby Titanosaurus named Zoey was born. Zoey was the type of Dino you would have liked, charming, clever and brave. As she grew up, she became curious about where her parents went every day after leaving her in daycare. However, when she asked, all she got was the same answer. "You'll find out someday," she mimicked her parents answering her. When she turned 12, she finally found out the answer. It was a sickening sight just walking by with her tutors taking charge of her when she saw her mum and dad being tortured by brutal Nian.

After the truth was revealed, she decided there would be no more torture for her kind. Zoey started a protest group against Nian and tried to persuade the Dinos to join her in her daily protest outside his palace. Her hard work paid off when 3 other young dinosaurs, named Josh, William and Tom joined. At first, they stuck to a no-violence protest when other dinosaurs started to join their group, which encouraged them even more to start a war against Nian. With that confidence, the Dinos instigated a riot which then led to war.

The Nian-Dino civil war began. It was like an ant fighting a fully-grown bear. Although Nian was outnumbered 100 to 1, his power, stamina and speed were masterful. The Dinos were no match for Nian... From there on the dinosaurs kept on losing dramatically despite their unique skills of speed, weight or strength. Over a hundred Dinos died out, including the Sinosauropteryx, Tarbosaurus and the Tsintaosaurus. However, that wasn't it. Nian made the Dinos' life harder and more complicated. "How dare you miserable, weak creature rebel against me?" growled Nian coldly while he was punishing his Dinos hostages.

The beastly creature tortured and slaughtered the losing Dinos even more than before. Dinosaurs started to fault Zoey for the loss of their better lives and their losses of lives and weapons. Even Josh, Tom and Jack quarreled over their unpredictable future.

Zoey thought about all of the dinosaurs that got injured. As quiet as a burglar, tears formed in her eyes, her head looked down in disappointment, guilty thoughts overwhelming her mind. Just then, she heard screams of agony around her. Thuds and slashes invaded her ears. "It's now or never," she told herself, clenching her claws tightly.

At her next meeting with Tom, Josh and William, she told them her plan to persuade the omnivore, [Deinocheirus](#), to help them win the war. She explained that the omnivore dinosaurs, with their unique abilities and strategic advantage, could be a crucial ally in the battle against Nian. Zoey suggested that Nian would go after the omnivores when the Dinos lost and it was better to fight at once since they had more power together. Although Zoey thought that she should go to persuade their allies to join them, the leader eventually let Josh and William go. She knew it was a hazardous journey to the south in Jiang Xi, 2000 km away from Liaoning. However, it was the only option to survive. A few days later, Zoey told the reluctant, battle-worn Dinos to hold the line just for a few more hours whilst Josh and William returned. After a few hours, the Dinos couldn't hold the line as she said and was slowly retreating backwards. When everything felt lost, Zoey heard an almighty roar from the sky. The omnivores were here! With newfound strength, the Dinos attacked from every direction, leaving no space for Nian to escape. Despite Nian's speed and power, the beast couldn't overpower the omnivores' ability to fly and come from above.

Shortly after the war, the carnivores took over the throne. They were voted as the most responsible and strong. The omnivores discovered how wonderful Liaoning was and were glad that they came to help. Nian, on the other hand, was banished from the now enjoyable kingdom to central China, where it will continue to create terror and grief for other creatures. Tom, William and Josh moved into the palaces of Liaoning, enjoying the rest of their lives. The beautiful remote city, Jiang Xi, was soon occupied by Zoey, who relaxed with peace, knowing that their victory had brought a new era of harmony and cooperation among the creatures.

# Stories of the Past Revealed

*Nord Anglia International School Hong Kong, Maria, Kiara – 10*

Have you ever wondered how it would feel to be sitting on a ticking TIME-BOMB? No, not the kind that will blow up your bodies, but the kind that will cause a gradual extermination of an entire civilisation. Well, let me tell you how it unfolded...

On a cold winter morning in December 2015, as the temperatures dipped below –50 degrees in the Xinjiang province of China, tourists and citizens walked into the majestic edifice which was exhibiting the fossils of 24 Pterosaurs that were recently found in the Liaoning province. The greedy owner of the museum, Chongqing, born with a silver spoon in his mouth, was infamous for his extravagant lifestyle and exploitation of his employees, who were as poor as a church mouse. Hours of work with meagre salary was all that the workers could get in a town where finding employment was hard, as they say that beggars cannot be choosers. But little did everyone know that Chongqing was not just an ordinary museum owner, for every night he would send his workers down to a secret basement and make them dig deep down the surface of earth all night, in the search of fossils of an endangered species of dragons that he badly wanted to display in the museum for his hunger for wealth and fame.

That night while one of the workers, Jiehong, was digging deep inside one of the tunnels, he heard a clank against his shovel. As he dug deeper, out rose a big skull of a creature that came together like a dinosaur...but hold on... what struck him was that as the fossil rose, he saw a few decomposed, light-coloured feathers around it. His excitement led him to dig deeper in the search of more fossils, that would probably belong to the body, but then he heard a sound which seemed that like of broken glass. He kneeled and used his gloved hands to scoop out the soil hurriedly, and what he saw, made his heartbeat as fast as a cheetah! It was an EGG! And given its size, it was obvious that this was what Chongqing was looking for. With shaking hands, he picked the egg and noticed a tiny crack on the shell which probably could have happened because of the sudden force of the shovel. Then, it crossed his mind... what if the freezing cold atmosphere of Xingjian for centuries could have preserved the egg way past its hatching period and there was still a life inside it? He knew that if Chongqing got to know this, his greed would make him see an opportunity in making more money from it, disregarding the risks that it might bring along. He quickly covered it with the soil, came back up, and did not utter a word to Chongqing.

When Jiehong came home, he told his 95-year-old great-grandma, who was a magician, the whole story. She pleaded to accompany him the next night secretly. When she went down, she was shocked to see the fossil, and then revealed to her grandson that she once heard from her ancestors about the existence of a most dangerous but worshipped Dinogon King (a mix of dinosaur and dragon). Apparently, despite the creature being dangerous, it had protected several dynasties in the past and people worshipped it until the awful volcanic eruption which wiped off not only the entire civilisation in the area but the entire species of the Dinogons. His grandma told him that this fossil was last seen in the Shang dynasty. She insisted that this should be kept a secret as the egg would need to be kept away from Chongqing, so the worker agreed to hold his tongue.

A few days later, Chongqing was told by a sneaky worker that they saw Jiehong pick up an egg and quickly bury it in the ground after he looked at it for a while. "Why didn't you tell me earlier? He could have hidden it somewhere by now! Move out of my way!", roared Chongqing, as he pushed the worker out of his way. He marched fiercely towards the workers' dormitory as he heard an enormous CRASH! Chongqing could smell a rat! He slowly opened the door as he heard some noises. He peeped in and saw pieces of eggshells littered on the floor and a tiny 2-foot-long creature stomping inside the room. It did not take him long to realise that it belonged to a baby Dinogon! As he carefully looked at the Dinogon, he was appalled at how the creature would still be alive! He quickly ran to his office and pulled out a book about the existence of dinosaurs and dragons and discovered that they can survive in freezing temperatures which was the case with Xinjiang. He quickly ran back to the dormitory and brought the baby dinosaur back in the office and placed him in a big trunk in his room. He immediately got on a call with his scientist friend and told him about his recent discovery. The scientist recommended him to bring the Dinogon to the lab for conducting some experiments and tests. He hung up and turned to transport the creature, but the trunk was open, and the baby Dinogon was MISSING! Chongqing was speechless! Where could it be gone? He searched all around and could not find a trace of the creature and..... it has not been found till date!

Did the super intelligent Dinogon species sense a danger? Did Jiehong rescue it? Did Grandma run a magic spell? We are yet to know.... Will we be able to unravel the mysteries and discoveries what lay ahead, waiting to be found? Until then, we are indeed sitting on a TIME BOMB!

# The Mysterious Big Stone

*Norwegian International School, Chan, Pak yi Seby – 10*

It was early morning, and golden sunlight flooded the lush greenery that would eventually transform into China over the centuries. Bamboo trees danced in the gentle breeze, flowers released their delightful fragrances, and birds chirped merrily, blissfully unaware of the thrilling events about to unfold. A young dinosaur named Seb—a Sinosauropteryx adorned with a vibrant, feathered crest—was an adventurous spirit often finding himself in a bit of a bind. He zipped through the air like a rainbow flitting past a butterfly, albeit one with teeth. “What kind of mischief might I stir up today?” he mused, completely oblivious to the whispers of something significant brewing in the valley. “I’m just little old me!”

Upon arriving at the Great Rock—a colossal stone embellished with intricate carvings of dragons and phoenixes—Seb noticed his friends looking quite distressed. Trina the Triceratops paced anxiously. “This is dreadful! The Great Stone has gone missing!”

“Isn’t that just a backdrop for dino selfies?” Seb queried, scratching his head.

“Not in the slightest!” replied Veto the Velociraptor with urgency. “Our plants rely on it to grow! There’s dragon magic within that stone!”

“That’s terrible!” Seb exclaimed, determination igniting in his eyes. “I want to help find it! After all, small but smart is the name of the game. Let’s search for clues—and maybe some snacks along the way!” His friends scattered, setting off in different directions.

One day, Seb decided to revisit the Glittering Stream, a favorite fishing spot. As he neared the water, something felt off. The once-sparkling stream appeared dark and foreboding! Kneeling at the muddy bank, he scanned the area, his eyes catching a glint beneath the surface; it was a stunning pendant shaped like a dragon and phoenix! “Wow! Someone must’ve lost this!” he exclaimed, his excitement palpable.

Suddenly, he heard rustling behind him. It was Dr. Harris, the dinosaur historian, looking quite shaken. “Seb? What are you doing here?” he stammered.

“Check out what I found!” Seb proudly displayed the pendant. “Is it yours?”

“Yes! I lost it while studying! But I swear, I didn’t take the stone!” Dr. Harris rushed to clarify.

Realizing they needed to pool their resources, they headed back to the Great Rock, where other dinosaurs had congregated. Seb showed off the pendant and recounted his discovery of small footprints by the rock. “Look!” he pointed at patches of bright feathers nestled in the bushes. “Those belong to a Compsognathus—the smallest, sneakiest dinosaur!” Dr. Harris explained.

They followed the trail of feathers through the underbrush until they stumbled upon a small cave draped in hanging vines. Worried glances were exchanged between Seb and Dr. Harris. What awaited them inside? “Stay close,” Dr. Harris whispered as they stepped inside. The cave was damp and shadowy, when suddenly, a tiny Compsognathus sprang out, trembling in fear. “Who are you?” it squeaked, quaking.

“We’re searching for the Great Stone!” Seb declared. “Have you seen it?”

“No! But yesterday, I spotted a gigantic dinosaur with something shiny! It looked like a giant chicken!” the little dinosaur stuttered.

“Can you tell us more about it?” Dr. Harris asked.

“It was massive; it had huge teeth and a long tail. It terrified me!” the Compsognathus quivered.



Seb's stomach flipped. "We need to inform everyone!" They dashed back and split up to hunt for more clues. Seb and Dr. Harris chose to explore the hills. As they climbed, Seb spotted something tucked away among the rocks. "Look!" he pointed.

They approached cautiously and discovered a large Allosaurus lounging next to the Great Stone, surrounded by rocks adorned with vivid dragon imagery. "What's our next move?" Seb whispered nervously.

"We need to outsmart it!" Dr. Harris responded decisively. "Hey! Over here!" Seb called out with newfound bravery.

They made a beeline for the stone, but the Allosaurus bellowed, "Stop! I want to create music!"

"Go!" Seb shouted, gripping the warm stone tightly. He raced toward the gathering dinosaurs. "Help!" he cried, panic surging through him. The other dinosaurs quickly formed a wall to confront the Allosaurus. "The stone belongs to us!" Vex declared, standing firm.

Realizing it was outnumbered, the Allosaurus growled and retreated into the woods. Exhausted yet elated, Seb and Dr. Harris breathed a sigh of relief. "We did it!" Seb held the Great Stone high above his head. Cheers erupted around them! "Seb and Dr. Harris, you're our heroes!" Trina beamed. "You've made our valley safe!"

"Now, can we have some baozi? My stomach's grumbling!" Seb exclaimed, his heart swelling with happiness as the sun dipped below the horizon. He had lent a helping hand to his friends! From that day forward, they all knew him as the brave little dinosaur who adored treats and thrilling escapades.

# New Tales of China's dinosaurs

*Sacred Heart Canossian School, Cheung, Catherine Tsz Yan – 11*

In a secluded valley, surrounded by towering mountains and dense forests, lay a village. This was no ordinary village; it was a place where monsters roamed freely, casting a shadow of fear over the villagers. Creatures of all shapes and sizes prowled the outskirts, spreading chaos and disease among the inhabitants. The villagers lived in constant dread, never knowing when the next attack would come. Whispers of terror filled the air, and sleep eluded even the bravest souls.

One fateful day, nine majestic dragons soared high above the valley, their scales shimmering in the sunlight. They were guardians of the skies, wise and powerful. They had long watched over the earth below. As they glided gracefully through the clouds, they spotted the flickering lights of the village, dimmed by the encroaching darkness of the monsters. Curiosity piqued, the dragons descended, landing silently on a cliff that overlooked the village.

What they saw made their hearts ache. The monsters, grotesque and menacing, were wreaking havoc, spreading disease and despair among the villagers. The dragons exchanged worried glances, their minds racing with questions. Why were the monsters tormenting these innocent people? How could they help? Determined to uncover the truth, the dragons devised a plan. Two of them, Seraphine and Thalor, transformed into a sickly dolphin and a gentle turtle. They believed that by disguising themselves, they could get closer to the villagers without inciting fear. As they made their way to the shore, the other dragons watched from above, their hearts pounding with anticipation. Seraphine, in her dolphin form, flopped onto the sandy beach, her body glistening under the sun. Thalor followed, his turtle shell glimmering like a precious gem. The two dragons squirmed on the sand, making soft, pitiful noises to attract the villagers' attention.

Soon enough, a group of villagers, curious and concerned, approached the struggling creatures. They had seen the devastation brought by the monsters and were wary of anything that seemed out of place. Yet, their compassion overcame their fear. They rushed to aid the sick dolphin and turtle, carefully lifting them from the sand, bringing them to their humble homes.

The villagers worked tirelessly to nurse the dragons back to health. They wrapped bandages around Seraphine's fin and provided Thalor with fresh seaweed to eat. They pooled their meager resources to take the "sick creatures" to the village healer, Elara. She examined them with gentle hands and a kind heart, using every remedy at her disposal to restore their strength.

As the dragons felt the villagers' warmth and care, gratitude swelled within them. They had expected fear and hostility, yet they found kindness and compassion instead. Seraphine and Thalor knew they had to help the villagers fight back against the monsters.

With newfound resolve, the two dragons took to the sky once more, their true forms revealing their majestic beauty. They soared above the valley, their hearts racing with the urgency of their mission. They returned to their fellow dragons, recounting the villagers' plight and the bravery they had witnessed.

"We must protect them!" Seraphine urged, her voice echoing through the clouds. "They've shown us kindness when they had every reason to fear us." The other dragons nodded in agreement, their fierce loyalty igniting a fire within them.

They formulated a bold plan to confront the monsters and reclaim the village from their grasp. But just as they were about to take flight, a chilling scream echoed from below. The dragons peered down, their hearts sinking as

they witnessed a horrific scene. The monsters returned, more menacing than ever, attacking the villagers. Panic erupted in the village. The villagers were fighting back, but they were outnumbered and overwhelmed.

Without hesitation, the dragons dove toward the village, their powerful wings stirring up gusts of wind as they descended. The sight of the dragons sent a wave of fear through the monsters, their confidence wavering as they realized they were no longer alone in their torment.

The dragons landed with a thunderous roar, their presence commanding respect and awe. For a moment, silence fell over the battlefield. The villagers stared, disbelief etched on their faces, before erupting into cheers. They were saved!

Seraphine and Thalor took the lead, rallying the villagers to fight alongside them. The dragons unleashed torrents of fire and wind, their powerful roars shaking the very ground beneath them. The villagers, emboldened by the dragons' presence, fought back with renewed vigor, using sticks, stones, and even bare hands.

Together, they formed an unbreakable bond, fighting against the monsters that had tormented them for long. The air was thick with tension, but the villagers felt a surge of hope. They were no longer alone.

As the sun began to set, casting a golden glow over the battlefield, the tide turned. The monsters, faced with the combined might of the dragons and the villagers, began to retreat. With a final, desperate roar, the creatures fled into the shadows, never returning.

Exhausted but victorious, the villagers and dragons stood side by side, their hearts swelling with pride and relief. They had faced darkness together and emerged stronger. The bonds forged in battle would last a lifetime, marking the beginning of a new era for the village.

In the days followed, the village began to heal. The villagers thrived, planting crops and rebuilding homes. Seraphine and Thalor, along with the other dragons, became protectors of the valley, lying on the hill to rest and heal until the monsters attack the kind village again.

The village transformed from a village of shadows into a place of light and hope. The laughter of children filled the air, and the bonds between humans and dragons grew stronger with each passing day. Together, they had faced the darkness and emerged victorious, proving that kindness and courage could conquer even the fiercest of monsters.

The tale of the nine dragons' inheritance to nowadays, and the place where the dragons laid named "Kowloon", in Cantonese means nine dragons, protecting Hong Kong and the little village.

# A New Proof by Dinosaurs

*Sacred Heart Canossian School, Chui, Man Yuet Alice – 11*

“I heard a roar in the distance, as if it were calling my name. So, I moved closer towards its direction and saw a gigantic T-Rex like Alectrosaurus!” Max told his friends during recess. “Max, I know that you are always fond of Chinese dinosaurs, but please tell me this story is all fiction,” John demanded. “But it is real! My dad has a time machine in the basement. That’s how I went into the past!” Max informed firmly. “Yeah... yeah, whatever! You really *did* go back in time and met an A...lectro...sau...rus or something like that,” John shook his head rapidly and led the rest of his friends away simultaneously. “Why can’t they believe in me?” Max wondered miserably.

After school, Max finished all his homework but one, an assignment to write an essay about something historical. Without any clue, Max laid down on the couch in the living room. He was playing with his plastic dinosaur claw pendant which was hung on his neck with a string and flipped through the programs on the television aimlessly. Nothing interesting caught his eye. “I’m so bored. Should I go visit the dinosaurs again?” He mumbled to himself as he sprinted to the basement. “Chinese dinosaurs, here I come!” He stepped into the time machine, set himself down to the seat and played with the panel by tinkering with the settings. He smirked in a split second without his own acknowledgment in satisfaction. Without hesitation, he hit the big red button which had the word ‘travel’ on it. Just then, he felt as if wind was lifting the rectangular time machine and was whirling it in the air.

In a blink of an eye, the time machine rang out with a ‘ding’, which sounds like a microwave oven when it reached the destination. Max swung the door open right away. A vivid and familiar scene cast on his eyes. With no effort, he spotted a herd of fuzzy dinosaurs which had a unique pattern that reminded him of the red panda. “Am I already in China? I wonder what type of dinosaur that is.” Max went back to the compartment with the AI computer. He set the built-in camera to focus the herd and consult the AI. A wiki-like page filled with tons of information showed up. Sinosauropteryx known as ‘Chinese lizard wing’ is the name of that cutie. Without surprise, it’s a meat-eating dinosaur. It had a covering of thin hair-like feathers. It was the first feathered dinosaur discovered that wasn’t directly related to birds. The first fossils of the Sinosauropteryx remains was discovered in 1996 in China which was exhibiting in The National Geological Museum in Beijing in present day. As Max was about halfway through the fascinating information of this species, a sudden severe vibration shocked him. And not to mention the rumbling sound in the distance for which was getting louder and louder. Max went out to have a look to see the commotion outside. With only a glance, he could tell he was in great danger instantly. That herd of Sinosauropteryx was running towards him and he could tell they would ‘greet’ him face to face in no more than a few minutes. With the concern of being the next snack of the dinosaurs, he knew that ending his trip immediately was the only option. And when he was stepping back to the machine, he slipped. He fell on the grassy ground faced down in great pain. He got back up on his feet clumsily and almost got a second fall by tripping on his own foot. By the time Max could hear the roars of the dinosaurs he got every setting of the time machine ready. He pressed the lovely big red button again just in time and made the time machine and himself vanish.

After a long hot shower, Max sat at his desk and began to fly his fingers over the keyboard until he finished his assignment wearily. For Max, this piece of homework was a diary rather than an expository essay. Without a doubt, the special time travel trip in the second half of that day was recorded in words truthfully in his paper. He got on the bed and covered his entire body with the comfy cover. Suddenly, he realized his dinosaur claw pendant was missing from his neck. An idea of which was caused by the awkward fall at the end of the trip flashed in his mind.

On the next morning, Max was woken by series of howling for him by his parents for which was in a good intention surprisingly at this time. Max knew that he had no choice but to rush to the living room where the uproar occurred. By the second Max stepped into the room, his parents showed the same “watch the TV” gestures to him. The TV

screen was showing a 24-hour news channel on which most of the news would be cast repeatedly until the new one was updated. Max was quite puzzled at first. All he could see was some kind of daily news which doesn't interest Max. Suddenly, the news reporter read the manuscript out clearly with the word 'Sinosauropteryx' on it and caught Max's attention. The news was about a new piece of fossil of this species was just discovered in China again. But what shocked Max was that scientists found a single piece of dinosaur claw fossil was clearly showing inside the tummy of the Sinosauropteryx. The outline of that particular dinosaur claw shape could not be more familiar to Max. For him, he could even tell there was a small hole in the top for it to be hanged as a pendant. A grin came flickering on his face since in his mind he knew where that claw came from. And most of all, he believed that he just proves *plastic* may not be dissolved even after millions and millions of years.

# New Tales of China's dinosaurs

*Sacred Heart Canossian School, Lau, Ho Ching – 11*

In one of the world most busiest city of Hong Kong, there was a secret place where dinosaurs still lived. This hidden world was spread across twelve districts here, each with a special dinosaur connected to the Chinese Zodiac.

Cherry, a 12-years girl who loved learning about dinosaurs. While other teenage girls are chasing after Korea pop stars, she would rather spend her time in the library exploring everything about dinosaurs. Following the discovery of fossil in Port Island in Sai Kung. Her interest grew even more.

One Friday after school, she stayed in the library and looked for dinosaurs materials as she usually did. She was a bit tired and then fell asleep. When she woke up, she had found an ancient map on the desk that showed the ways to find dinosaurs in Hong Kong.

She followed the map to the first stop: Waterfall Bay in Aberdeen. With a raincoat she skipped into the waterfall. She went inside the cave and saw a big fossil in the rock. Suddenly, the ground shook, and the fossil started to glow. The dinosaur came to life!

The dinosaur roared loudly and looked at Cherry with wise eyes.

"Welcome, young girls. I am Rui Zhi, the guardian of this ancient land," the dinosaur said.

Cherry was amazed. "How is this possible?" she asked.

Rui Zhi smiled, "There are many mysteries in this world. Each of the twelve Chinese Zodiac animals has a guardian dinosaur in this city. Let me introduce you to them."

They travelled through the districts of Hong Kong, and Rui Zhi introduced Cherry to each dinosaur guardian.

On Lantau Island, they met the playful Monkey dinosaur, who was smart and loved to explore.

In Wong Tai Sin, Cherry met the wise Snake dinosaur, who was flexible and had smooth scales.

In Kowloon City, they found the Tiger dinosaur, who was fast and brave with golden fur.

In Tsim Sha Tsui, they discovered the strong Ox dinosaur, who worked hard and had a muscular body.

In Sai Kung, they visited the loyal Dog dinosaur, who was protective and honest.

In Shatin, they found the hardworking Rooster dinosaur, who was proud and diligent.

In Tuen Mun, they saw the daring Horse dinosaur, full of energy and spirit.

In Fanling, they admired the gentle Sheep dinosaur, who was peaceful and calm.

In Kwun Tong Cherry met the kind Pig dinosaur, who was friendly and generous.

In Shau Kei Wan, they met the Dragon dinosaur with shimmering scales and powerful wings. It is strong and brave.

In Wanchai, they met the quick Rabbit dinosaur, known for good luck and grace.

Finally, back in Central, they encountered the clever Rat dinosaur, who was smart and resourceful.

For many days, Cherry stayed in each district, learning from the dinosaur guardians. The dinosaurs taught her the wisdom of the zodiac. They explained how all living things are connected. She then filled her journal with drawings and notes.

One evening, as the sun set over Victoria Harbour, Rui Zhi spoke to Cherry. "It's time for you to go back to your world. You have learned a lot, and now you must share this knowledge with others."

Cherry nodded, feeling both sad and happy. "Will I see you again?"

Rui Zhi smiled. "We will always be here, watching over this land. Remember all the stories we tell and the wisdom we share."

With a blasting roar, Rui Zhi and the other dinosaur guardians disappeared. Then Cherry woke up from the nap and found that what just happened with the dinosaurs was a dream.

Back in the school the other Monday, Cherry started to write the memories and knowledge of this hidden world in a novel. She hopes the book will inspire new generations with the tales of Hong Kong's dinosaurs and the wisdom of the Chinese Zodiac.

# Secrets in the Ice

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Arrowsmith, Nelson – 10*

Chen looked up, pushing his glasses onto his nose, “Woah, it’s like a giant spaceship!”.

“Yeah, right”, said Charlie, “and there are aliens hiding in that forest over there”.

“That forest looks scary,” said Ravi, “come on, we should catch up with the group”.

The brightly lit ice structure towered over the three boys, as they stood in the icy–cold evening air of Harbin.

“Boys! What are you doing back there? Come on!” shouted the teacher.

“Sorry, sir won’t happen again”, Ravi pleaded.

The group of children continued their tour, emerging from a dark tunnel in front of an enormous ice castle. Icicles sparkled from high above, the ceiling illuminated by a rainbow of lights. It was like they had teleported to some sort of magical winter wonderland.

“So long suckers! I’m off to check out that ice slide”, Charlie screamed.

“No, Charlie!” You could get lost!” Ravi shouted after him.

But Charlie was already gone. Chen and Ravi followed, trying to keep up. By the time they reached him they were puffing and panting, with cheeks bright red.

“Hey guys, there’s smoke coming from that forest. Let’s check it out!” Charlie ran off and the boys continued their pursuit into the forest.

“Oh no!” exclaimed Ravi, “Charlie said there were a–aliens in that f–f–forest”.

“Don’t worry Ravi, he was only joking. There’s nothing mysterious about this place”, Chen reassured him.

Eventually the boys emerged from the forest, facing a large, frozen lake. Charlie had stopped running and was staring into the darkness.

“A–ha! I told you there was smoke. Look!” Charlie pointed to a small wooden hut, around the other side of the lake.

Ravi groaned, “Great, so can we please go back now? We’re in so much trouble. And I’m sooo cold”.

A figure started to emerge from the darkness, heading straight towards the boys from across the lake.

“It’s the aliens!” shrieked Ravi at the top of his lungs. His face was as pale as a whiteboard.

“What are you boys doing out here in the middle of nowhere?” asked the stranger.

Ravi could see the figure was an old man, speaking in a vaguely familiar dialect of Mandarin.

Charlie turned to Chen, “Er, what did he just say?”

“Charlie, you really need to listen more in Mandarin class”.

Charlie shrugged.

“I can speak in English if that’s easier?” continued the old man.

He explained that he lived alone in the wooden hut and was a founder of the ice festival. Now long retired, he spent his time exploring the local lakes. He seemed content and cheerful, and the boys warmed to him. Chen explained how they had separated from their school group and were now lost in the forest.

“You boys look frozen. You need to get warm quickly. I can hear your teeth chattering from here! Come back to my hut and we can figure out how to get you back to your group”.

The boys hesitated and looked at each other.

“It could be a trap!” whispered Ravi in a panic, “I mean, look at the state of him. His clothes are tatty. And he even has a bad guy moustache!”

“Calm down”, whispered Chen, “he seems fine. Besides, we are all freezing”.

The boys trudged behind the old man as he set off. They arrived at the hut and were shown inside. The hut was cosy and the boys cried with relief as a wave of heat hit them. They ran to the fire, huddling round.

“Hey, what’s this?” asked Charlie, gawping at a collection of small, bright blue eggs.

The old man joined them at the fire and peered into the basket.

“I pulled these eggs from the far corner of the lake a few days ago. Noone from the ice festival ventures this far for their ice. They say the lake here is so deep no one has ever seen the bottom of it”. The old man gazed wistfully



into the flames. “I still like to build ice sculptures”, he continued, “and I’ve been exploring further into the lake to cut my ice blocks. Just last week I pulled out an ice block with these eggs inside”.

“Wow, amazing!”, exclaimed Chen. “They look so unusual, what animal do they belong to?”

“Well, you won’t believe this. I’ve done some research and I’m fairly sure these belong to a dinosaur from over 100 million years ago. It’s called Confuciusornis”.

“Woahhhh!” The boys called out together.

Just then, one of the eggs began to move, and a small crack appeared. The old man shrieked in disbelief. How could this be? If this really was a dinosaur egg, it couldn’t possibly still contain life. Slowly, a beak emerged from the egg, then a claw and a body.

“Whaaaaa... this is amazing!” cried Charlie.

“How can this be...?”, muttered the old man. Then he shuddered. “Oh no”, he continued, “Oh no, oh no...”

“What’s the matter?”, asked Chen.

“This is bad, really bad”.

“Come on, it’s amazing”, said Charlie. “And it’s just a friendly bird. OK, a very old bird that probably shouldn’t be alive after all this time... but it’ll make a great pet!”

“It’s not that”, said the old man, “come with me”.

The boys followed out the back door, to the rear of the hut. The old man switched on a spotlight that illuminated a wide-open area. Its surface shimmered and glistened in the light.

“Wow, that’s a lot of ice”, said Chen.

“It sure is”, agreed Charlie, “and what are all those coloured specks inside the ice blocks? They look like chocolate M&M’s”.

Gradually, they realised what they were looking at. Stacked one on top of another were hundreds of sparkling ice blocks, spread out as far as the eye could see. And each one contained brightly coloured balls, all different shapes and sizes. Except they weren’t chocolate treats. They were eggs.

“Oh boy”, they all exclaimed together.

# A Chungkingosaurus's Tale

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Chen, Bella – 10*

Acornstar was an intelligent Chungkingosaurus, roaming in the harmonious land of dinosaurs. He was the leader of The Chungkingosaurus's tribe and enjoyed training with his tribemates. Acornstar's tribe grew stronger with the help of his adjutant, Oakclaw. The two Chungkingosaurus were great friends.

One day, while Acornstar searched for plants to restore the food collection, he ran into a striped Tsintaosaurus named Fireclaw. He discovered that this Tsintaosaurus was a homeless dinosaur that sauntered in nearby territories, and of course kind-hearted Acornstar welcomed him into his Tribe. But when Acornstar returned to his home with Fireclaw, the other Chungkingosaurus did not behave as he thought they would. However, Acornstar ignored the other dinosaurs' complaining, instead, he treated Fireclaw like a grand guest of his Tribe.

At first, everything was perfect! Acornstar brought plants for the Tsintanosarus everyday, ignoring his duties to entertain his guest. The Tribe got used to the new arrival of the homeless Tsintaosarus, but eventually, Acornstar started to break into serious arguments often with his adjutant, Oakclaw who disagreed. Arguments gradually became fighting, so the Chungkingosaurus leader decided not to bother with his adjutant anymore.

It wasn't long before Acornstar noticed unusual things happening. The food collection began growing smaller day by day, and dinosaurs wailed when they starved from the lack of food to savor. Life continued like this for days and days, and the Chungkingosaurus grew more aggressive as the situation continued, snapping at their tribemates. They cast suspicious glares at their guest, Fireclaw the Tsintaosaurus. In the beginning, the newcomer had cowered and backed away, but he had slowly become confident and smirked at any dinosaur that had been hostile to him. Acornstar decided he was going to seek a journey right the next day. He had to. Pronouncing his plans to his fellow Chungkingosaurus, he returned to his nest and drifted off to sleep.

The next day, the Chungkingosaurus leader accepted the traveling herbs he was gifted, and said his goodbyes. *There must be something he is hiding from us!* Acornstar thought silently to himself, as he was starting off to the forest to look for some clues. He found a trail of footsteps, and following them, walked on and on until he felt his own sturdy legs were about to crumple, until he felt his belly wobbling so harshly he might suddenly fall over, finally, he decided to find some plants and munch on before he continued his journey. When Acornstar reached a stream, he bent over it to study his reflection in the crystal clear water. He was *horrified*. His once clean and shiny skin had become ragged and splattered with earth, and over his long tail was bruises and scratches that made him wince.

He shook his body, reminding himself to focus on his journey, then once again began to trek on the long forest path that seemed endless. Occasionally, the footsteps faded, and he began to recognise fresh scents of plants that he and his Chungkingosaurus always ate. Acornstar started running as fast as his dinosaur legs could carry him, until the bottom of his feet felt as if cracking. Following the tempting scents of the plants, Acornstar soon led himself into a wide space. He couldn't help gaping at the sight before his eyes. In the clearing was a humongous pile of plants, plants from his own tribe!

Then a stunning thought struck his mind. Fireclaw! Of course! The Tsintaosaurus always disappeared for hours when the Chungkingosaurus trained, then reappeared in the camp as if nothing happened. That was why! Acornstar felt guilty for trusting him so deeply without a further thought, and ignoring his adjutant blindly to make him angry. What kind of Chungkingosaurus was he? Doing two things wrong at the same time!

As Acornstar wandered in his thoughts, a sudden rumble made him jump. Slowly, more and more striped red Tsintaosaurus poured into the space, their eyes lighting up as they saw the tall pile of plants in the space. They began to thrust forward aggressively, growling and leaping for the plants, gobbling loads up in big, greedy bites. The Chungkingosaurus leader was forced to retreat as even more Tsintaosarus entered the space.

Before long, Acornstar was darting around trees, towards the pathway of home. His chest burned with fury as he recalled the sight of seeing unknown Tsintaosaurus enjoying the Chungkingosaurus' food, and that force of anger made him run even faster. Unlike the time he started his journey, the Chungkingosaurus did not pause to fill his stomach, not even willing to halt and catch his wavering breath.

When he reached the Chungkingosaurus camp, he was breathless and wounded. At once, Chungkingosaurus hurried to his side, crowding and babbling with urgent questions.

"What did you find?"

"Anything you brought back?"

"How are you doing?" The Chungkingosaurus leader was overwhelmed. He dismissed his chattering tribemates, and slid through the crowd to meet his adjutant. Even though the two hadn't spoken to each other for a long time, they were both secretly glad to meet again. Acornstar made his apologies first, and with a grin, Oakclaw responded to him in the same gesture. The two friends spent many hours discussing their plan, then finally, they made their move.

That night, the Chungkingosaurus leader and his adjutant called for a tribe meeting, ordering the Tsintaosaurus Fireclaw to stand in the very middle. Under their tribemate's intense watch, the two confronted the Tsintaosaurus for his actions, and pressed him to spill out the truth to his ideas. Acornstar was furious when Fireclaw confessed he thought that the Chungkingosaurus were weak, and under his terrible anger, Acornstar snarled ferociously,

"You are exiled." The Tsintaosarus gridlocked, struck, then trampled away, leaving deep footprints in the ground, stalking unwillingly from the Chungkingosaurus camp.

Many years later, the Chungkingosaurus became the ruler of the dinosaurs, once led by the great Chungkingosaurus leader Acornstar, who's tale would be told to more generations of Chungkingosaurus, as an important part of the Chungkingosaurus family's history.

# A Peculiar Thing

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Chen, Rebecca – 10*

I was walking along the road when I spotted something rather peculiar in the corner of my eye, very peculiar perhaps, most peculiar! It was metal made, like a box but larger. When I walked up to it, I found it was a machine. I went inside the machine and discovered a screen, on the screen there were two buttons: 'Past' or 'Future'.

There was a sudden bump on the back of the machine, and I stumbled forward. My arms thrashing around, I accidentally pressed one of the buttons. The next thing I knew, I was falling into an endless patch of darkness.

I woke up and glanced around me in wonder, I wasn't on the road anymore, I was in a green clearing with trees, trees, and more trees. They were fluffy and bushy trees that are shaped in peculiar shapes that I had never seen before. The machine was nowhere to be found either! Then I remembered something, the two buttons. It said 'Past' or 'Future'. Realization hit me; I travelled through time into the past. However, how many years have I travelled back?

I stood up and walked along the clearing, wondering what I was supposed to do. Suddenly, I heard something mysterious, something weird. It was as if something was following me, just behind me, ready to pounce on me any second. I looked back, there was nothing, nothing at all. The deeper I went into the forest, the colder and darker it became. I shivered, trying to keep that spooky sensation away. There was the noise again. I slowly turned around and the place behind me was not empty anymore. I screamed at the top of my lungs; my throat was burning. There was a creature standing behind me, its razor-sharp eyes sliced through me as if it was looking behind me. Its greenish skin had a slimy and scaly texture. I glanced at its back and gasped. There was something pointy. Something sharp. Something edgy. I almost fainted when the creature spoke, "I'm not going to harm you, don't worry,". A monster that could talk? That was it, I fainted.

I woke up in the clearing again, I was wondering where I was when I remembered I travelled through time. Then I spotted the creature that I saw earlier and almost fainted again. The little creature spoke, "You know I wouldn't harm you right? However, you are a rather peculiar thing. I had never seen you around here, are you new?"

"I...I travelled through...through time," I stumbled, then I glanced at it, what are you?"

"I am a dinosaur of course! I am actually a very special one, I am a Chinese Dinosaur. I grew up in the Chinese area!" The dinosaur snorted and made a half roar half grumble noise like he was very proud of himself. Then he stared at me weirdly since he must have never seen anyone like me before. A dinosaur? How peculiar! This creature doesn't look like a dinosaur at all! It has a long snout and no teeth on the top. I read stories about dinosaurs, and I've been to museums because I was so interested in them, but I had never seen a dinosaur that looked like this! Then I remembered something my history teacher said, "Humans will never know what kind of sound a dinosaur makes."

I am the first person to hear it! I was so excited that I decided to learn and know more about dinosaurs. I stood up excitedly but immediately sat down again. Where should I start? That was when I remembered I had a camera with me, I was about to go hiking and take photos when I saw the time machine. I took out the camera and snapped a few photos of the dinosaur. Then I took a video of me interviewing the dinosaur, "So where do you live, Mr. Dinosaur?"

"Call me Felix please, and we Chinese dinosaurs live in a cave together, why would you ask?"

"Oh, nothing. Now Felix, please make a noise that you dinosaurs use to roar," I replied. Felix glanced at me suspiciously but nodded. He made the half roar half grumble noise again. After that, I asked a few more questions about dinosaurs and Felix answered them all.

I felt very proud of myself for knowing more about dinosaurs. I felt that I could finally solve the mysteries about them! I stood up and decided to take a stroll along the clearing. Suddenly, I gasped. I found the time machine.

I looked behind me, Felix was nowhere to be seen so I sneaked into the time machine. I found the screen inside but there was only one button left. It says: 'Future'. I pressed it and the same feeling went through me again. I woke up and found myself surrounded by a crowd of reporters. I was lying on the ground where the time machine used to have been, but now it disappeared. One woman helped me up and asked me what happened. I answered truthfully but no one would believe me. I scanned around the floor and spotted what I was looking for. I grabbed hold of my camera and showed them all the pictures and videos I took.

By the end of the video, all the people around me had their mouth agape and eyes widened. Now, I am a very famous dinosaur researcher, and I am walking along the famous museum when I spotted something peculiar again. It was not the time machine; it was a skull that had the label: A dinosaur. I smirked because this was not a random dinosaur, this was Felix: A peculiar thing.

# The Tale of The Chinese Dragon Bird

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Du, Edmund – 11*

The grassy terrains stretched for a seemingly eternal distance, and the plants calmly waltzed to the gentle breeze's rhythm, when suddenly, a feathery tail whipped across the plains, disrupting the peace with a single swift movement. Then powerful legs bent like a compressed spring before boosting the body forward, allowed the creature to soar through the air, while capturing the helpless young dalinghosaurus with its powerful jaw.

It was a sinosauropteryx. Holding the winged creature firmly in its mouth, it jogged at a steady pace back to its nest while the sun slowly set, and the darkness as well as the unforgiving cold replaced the warm light. When he reached his nest, he found his family waiting. His partner was keeping their two young snug in her loving embrace, as she exposed herself to the cold.

The sinosauropteryx lowered his head and released the limp lizard in front of his partner, before releasing a soft whimper of worry. His partner has given up her share of food for their offspring, and had not yet eaten in two days, resulting in her current state. Prey had been scarce lately, and it had shocked all the dinosaurs with a wave of famine. In hopes of letting their young live a healthy life, his partner had given all her food to them.

His partner glanced at him for a moment with a glimmer of happiness in her eyes, before using her snout to push the dalinghosaurus towards their offspring. The young dinosaurs shuffled out of their mother's tight embrace and sniffed at the food, before devouring it. Then they re-entered their mother's safe cradle and fell sound asleep.

The sinosauropteryx looked worriedly at his partner before deciding to capture another small creature just for her. He scanned her starved, weak body unprotected from the cold for one last time before setting off again, this time into the darkness.

He swiftly trotted into the plains he was just at and searched through the bushes, hoping to find another dalinghosaurus. He examined the still surroundings, looking closely for even a single movement. Suddenly, a twig snapped, and a blurred figure sprung from the bush in front of him.

The sinosauropteryx jumped up and rotated his legs, his undying determination to feed his starved partner fuelling him and erasing his fatigue. The lizard disappeared into another bush, so the sinosauropteryx slowed his footsteps, and waited outside of the bush, trying to anticipate the lizard's next move.

The lizard then darted out of the bush and through the sinosauropteryx's legs. The flexible dinosaur spun around and soon reacquired his speed and was gaining on the small lizard.

He slashed his claws at the lizard, and soon paroxysms of deadly slashes were aimed at the small lizard, getting closer and closer to its body, but still not enough to reach it.

Instead, the sinosauropteryx decided to crane his neck forward and open his gnarled mouth, preparing to swoop in and snatch the lizard away with his jaws. Then he saw the opportunity, a yawning pit was ahead, making the lizard slow down and change his course of direction.

The dinosaur lurched forward, and just as he was about to snatch the lizard away with his jaws, a single pebble tripped his left foot. This small pebble disrupted his balance and sinosauropteryx tumbled forward into a pit, the lizard only barely caught in the corner of his mouth.

As he fell headfirst into the deep pit, the surrounding dirt collapsed like a landslide, filling up the pit. The sinosauropteryx gulped down the lizard amid the chaos and arched his head upwards, gasping for air, but hope was completely erased as black entered through the doors of the dinosaur's eyes.

Even as hope disappeared, the dinosaur still kicked his legs and arched his head further. His starving partner was still waiting for him at their nest, her back still exposed to the cold, shielding their two young from the merciless world. Alone. As a last frenzied move, the sinosauropteryx swished its tail towards the top and opened its mouth as he finally gave into his tragic demise.

One hundred and twenty-two million years later, Li YuMin, farmer and part-time fossil-hunter, found the fossil of a dinosaur preserved in a slab of rock. Its head and tail were arched upwards, and a small lizard was found in the gut area. It was later identified as a feathered dinosaur not directly connected to birds, the first of its kind discovered, giving it its nickname—the Chinese Dragon Bird.

This dinosaur's fossil is now being displayed at the Geological Museum of China located in Beijing. The melancholic tale of this “Chinese Dragon Bird” will forever be displayed under a glass case, capturing the sinosauropteryx in its moment of desperation. One hundred and twenty-two million years ago, dinosaurs were at the top of the food chain, but they remained loyal to their family in moments of crisis. In the present, we humans stand at the top, replacing them, and we also stay by our families, a concept unchanged in millennia. Yet now, we admire their remains, or in this case a lugubrious tale taken from their era.

# The Power of Discovery and Belief

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Gong, Celine – 11*

I giggled as the policeman in the movie I was watching tripped on his own foot. I slowly turned my head as I felt the dinosaur soft toy in my arms move by itself. It couldn't be! I slowly met its plastic beady eyes, light blasting from all around me. THUD! I fell to the ground. I groaned as I stood up like an old lady, only to see brown coloured dried clay all around me. There were a few patches of grass about every ten meters or so. I bent down to snatch the little dinosaur soft toy from the ground, confused. SCREECH! I looked around, alarmed. I spotted a creature trotting towards me. It had white and caramel-coloured feathers, a striped tail and is as tall as me. It's a Sinosauropyteryx, a dinosaur. I seem to have been transported back in time 130 million years! The Sinosauropyteryx, the "Chinese lizard wing," made my whole body tense as it turned its head to me. It started towards me. I froze in fear and terror. The Sinosauropyteryx stared at me and tilted its head down with blinking eyes as I tried hard to not tremble. Dread spread through me as the sun started inching down, towards the sandy hills. "I need to find a place to hide before it gets dark, I don't want to get eaten," I whispered to myself, hoping that the Sinosauropyteryx would soon lose interest in me.

"Follow me," the Sinosauropyteryx blurted.

"You can speak!" My eyes widened, the Sinosauropyteryx started to pace away before I could say anything else, so I followed it...

"We're here," the Sinosauropyteryx said, after some difficult walking.

WHOOSH!

"What's up Boss!" A group of Pterodactyls flew into the cave.

"Marly, Jaydy, Danny, there will be a gathering tomorrow morning at the water pond, spread the news," Darreon waved a claw.

"Yes sir!" they chanted as they dashed out of the cave.

I curled into a ball in one of the clay hollows. I would never have expected such a small boss of the dinosaurs; he must have been a great hero. I clutched the soft toy tight, and looked into its plastic beady eyes again, hoping that I could go back. Light filled the space around me once more, and I began to feel hope rise.

THUD! I fell to the ground once again, but when I opened my eyes, I was sitting on a cold marble floor. There were neon lights everywhere, most buildings seemed to be made with purple or blue coloured glass, and all the doors had facial recognition doorbells on them. I must be in the future. A voice boomed from behind me.

"Breaking news, the club 'Dinosaur Discoverers' have discovered so much information that they are now forcing the Chinese, the ancient fossil paradise, to hand in their newly found dinosaur fossil for experimentation. The club has discovered a chemical that can bring the original form of the fossil back to life. The experiment will be broadcast at ten tonight." If the fossil of the dinosaur is damaged, there is a risk that the dinosaur could be affected.

I paced around to find a solution until I saw a store that had a giant banner on it saying 'Space Interests'. I walked into the store, and I saw a fold-out rocket that could expand to accommodate additional material.

A fun fact that I read last week swung into my mind at the sight of the rocket: if the skin of the dinosaurs ever touched the dust of Mars, their skin would change and almost evolve into a new species.

I am going to send the dinosaurs to Mars.

There may be a chance, even if this fun fact wasn't true. I grabbed the small, fold-out rocket and ran out of the store, alarming the staff. I don't have time, it's almost midnight. I grasped the soft toy and stared into its eyes. Light blasted once again. THUD!



Darreon and the others were chatting when I broke the unfortunate news to them and how they needed to leave Earth.

“Nope, this is a joke,” Marly scoffed.

“If I die, I will die here, at home,” Danny protested.

“Enough. We will discuss this in the gathering tomorrow morning,” Darreon said, holding up his claw in the air.

“There isn’t enough time. They will start destroying the fossils – the rocks that you guys form after you die, in two or three hours’ time,” I cried.

Darreon let out a deep sigh as he gave a signal to the Pterodactyls.

SCREEEECH! The Pterodactyls shrieked into the night sky.

A few moments later the howls were returned, and herds of dinosaurs were in the cave.

I explained the problem and my plan as all of them turned their eyes to me.

I pulled out the rocket despite their fierce stares.

“M–my–b–baby just disappeared!” a Spinosaurus mother cried. All the dinosaurs exchanged worried looks, but eventually boarded the rocket.

I closed the door of the rocket after I squeezed in. I pressed the red button without hesitation. Flickers of flame burst as the fire became hotter. BOOOOOOSH! The rocket shot into the sky.

“We’re here.” I slid open the door, and heat filled the air. I held my breath, holding as much oxygen as I could. The dinosaurs murmuring got quieter and quieter as the dinosaurs made their way out of the rocket.

CLANK! A shiny surface seeped through some of the dinosaurs’ skin, some of their eyes turned into a ruby–like red. SPLASH! Water shot out of a Tyrannosaurus’s open mouth. FLARE! Fire blasted out of Danny’s mouth from above. POOF! Air filled the surroundings as a young Triceratops shot air. I gasped for air, finally catching my breath. Excitement filled the air. A smile spread across my face. They have evolved into a new species that will be unbothered by the greed of ‘Dinosaur Discoverers’. Everyone will be safe!

Tired, I decided to name them Marsinosaurus on the way back to Earth – what a day!

# Dinosaur DNA

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Han, Zhiyu – 11*

The Sun exploded not long ago, and humans have had to evolve, moving away from Earth and onto Olympus, a new planet to inhabit.

Outside the window, a tiger roared, its neon green fur rippling dangerously in the wind. The rest of the animals in the enclosure were normal, aside from the occasional neon-pink-skinned rhinos, leopards with chipmunk-like cries and a few others. The famous scientist, Dr Finn, created a DNA machine, recreating animals using their DNA collected on Earth before the explosion. Unfortunately, some animals DNA became lost or mutated during the experiments, such as tigers. Humans desperately tried to preserve animals becoming extinct due to pollution which humans didn't take seriously until too late. Brooke sighed, propping up her chin on the table. She would have given anything to see a 'real' tiger, just like the pictures in her animal encyclopedia.

She sipped her tea, enjoying the fresh air produced by the blue-leaved trees on Olympus, waiting for another adventurer to come to the DNA Centre.

"Fellow adventurers!" Dr Finn announced after Everest, the other famous adventurer came, "You have both fought highs and lows, helping humankind achieve remarkable things. I am going to trust you with a classified mission. Follow me"

Dr Finn led Brooke and Everest to the control room of the DNA Center. Then, he started his presentation. A humongous whiteboard was scrawled with the cursive writing which marked Dr Finn's identity. Brooke noticed that the professor's body was not well filled out, his flat chest resembled what used to be muscles, but his belly was increasingly plump, as exceptional comfort and luxury had affected his physique.

"Your mission is to aid in the research of dinosaurs. I want you to collect DNA from two specimens, the Sinovenator, AKA the Chinese Hunter, known for the combs on the male chicken's head and small wing-like hands, and the Beipiaosaurus, AKA the Beipiao lizard, known for its feathered tail. They both lived at the same time, and fossils were found in China while humans were still on Earth."

Dr Finn handed them a few pieces of paper with information to catch the dinosaurs, two DNA-takers, and an animal tracker, and sent them on their way into the swirling, misty time machine.

A rich, earthy smell wafted through the air, soil crunching under Brooke's shoes as she walked through the forest, admiring the magnificent grandeur of the humongous green fern trees. Somewhere in the distance, a dinosaur roared, and behind a bush, something scaly and small emerged, chomping on the leaves. Everest was stunned into silence. Over the next few days, Brooke and Everest crossed mountains, waded through streams, and collected the DNA of the Chinese Hunter, leaving them with the Beipiao lizard to find.

"Now let's see how we can deal with this guy," Brooke said, starting to read the last piece of official information from her bag.

"Dear Black Shadow, I have secured the T-rex, Pteranodon, Spinosaurus and other warrior dinosaur DNA. Two adventurers will deliver the DNA for the mini dinosaurs, completing the warrior series I am developing. After I establish my prehistoric, under-my-control dinosaur army, we will rule the world. Your ally, The Dark Crown."

Brooke gasped sharply. Everest was also in shock, eyebrows a furrowed black caterpillar on his forehead. The same thing raced in their minds, whirlwinds whisking the paraphrased versions of Dr Finn around.

"Dr Finn? It can't be true!" But the words scrawled on the paper, the handwriting that affirmed Dr Finn's identity, were there, like a mountain range blocking the way, obvious and unmoving.

“We must stop him! He might already know that he gave the wrong paper! He already has the dangerous animals’ DNA. Olympus may already be in danger! We have to get back!” Brooke leapt to her bag, trying to find the button that would transport them home.

Meanwhile, Dr Finn was prowling around his lab, frantically trying to find his letter in the mountains of files. He tore out a piece of paper, and his eyes bulged. “This is the paper I was supposed to give Brooke! She has my letter! I must shut down the time machine.” He let out a string of colorful curses and rushed to the time machine, promptly slamming his hand onto the “SHUT DOWN” button.

Brooke pressed the button repeatedly, slowly realizing that the time machine had been shut down. Beads of sweat began rolling down her pulsing temple. Finally, she flumped down heavily on a rock, silent, worry written on her face, hastily wiping away a stream of tears. Everest chewed on his lip, hands wrapped around himself, his head drooping.

Time stood still. Then, a big grin emerged on Everest’s face. “I have a plan. I can contact my AI assistant, Pixel, and she can contact the authorities. Then, they will know about Dr Finn, restart the time machine, and we can go home.” Everest whipped out his device, took a snapshot of the letter, typed feverishly on his tablet, and grinning happily, collapsed to the ground.

30 minutes later, Everest’s device beeped, and he leapt up, scanning the screen. “YES! The time machine restarted, and Dr Finn is captured! Brooke, press the button!” His eyes gleamed and he ran to Brooke, button already in hand, and she promptly smacked it, finally returning them to their comfortable, peaceful and safe home.

The calming ocean of whispering blue leaves soothed Brooke’s eyes as the gentle wind caressed her face, the dazzling sunlight shining warmly, dappling the leaves in shades of gold. Dr Finn was captured, and everyone was relieved to know that Dr Finn’s vicious plan was stopped. They had just escaped from their dying and burning Earth; they didn’t want to be in danger and terror again. Brooke marvelled at the beauty of Olympus, sinking deep into thought. She vowed to herself that she would do everything to protect the new world. Both humans and animals would be safe, living harmoniously with nature.

# A New World

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Huang, Katherine – 11*

“Sally!” Someone called my name, causing me to lift my eyelids up slowly. “Come with me!” the mysterious voice chimed. I was just sleeping after a normal day in school. My mind went completely blank. Icy fingers wrapped around my wrist, making me shiver anxiously. I was being dragged into... The library?

I kicked the air trying to get out as my eyes were wide with fear.

“Calm down. My name is Nelly, and you have been chosen to help our secret agency. We are paleontologists, and we study dinosaurs.” At that point, my mind was a maelstrom, a whirlwind of thoughts. I was dubious about this weird person.

“Many years ago,” the woman started, “a group of scientists were studying fossils. They found something strange... In China, in the Liaoning Province, we found out that this library that has something we need it to find out what the earth was like 66 million years ago.”

She pushed several books back on a shelf and a secret door creaked open. It felt as if a mysterious secret and place of my imagination opened up to me. Glittering ancient books and papers appeared in my sight. A group of people were huddled around. A man explained the situation and a mysterious letter they found which may help. It was written with a mysterious language; Alphabets were written all tilted in different directions the letter started with an “F” upside down.

My mind raced, I just had to help them! “I’m in,” I replied.

“Great, let’s figure this message out!” Nelly exclaimed. My mind raced with curiosity and thinking. We scanned the beginning of the letter and then the end. There was a receiver and sender but they were all written in the other language. The paper was yellow so it must have been written at least 2 years ago. Clearly it was copying the modern English language so this letter couldn’t have been written before 1150 AD. I had an idea! I fingered the letter as calculations sprang through my head. The alphabet letters were tilting towards different directions! I only saw the alphabets tilting to the right, down, left and up, and it was tilting according to the clockwise direction. So if an “a” was tilted towards the right, it would be the letter after it which is “b”. Starting from a normal “a” I figured all the symbols out, and figured out the letter. The letter was fairly short and simple but what made us gasp with astonishment was the information revealed. The letter was written 4 years ago. In summary, the letter mentioned how 2 scientists were telling each other about the dinosaur’s interesting behaviors somewhere called The Eagle’s Crest.

Again, we bolted into a black car. As Nelly drove us to the “Eagle’s Crest”. Meanwhile, the other scientists asked me questions making me gain more trust for them.

When we arrived at Eagle’s Crest, the scenery was beautiful. Lush green bushes peacefully lay on the rocks on the ground. Thin and thick tree trunks stood beside the bushes, dancing to the soft breeze. We entered the enchanted forest behind the mountains, and there it was, a land of dinosaurs—real Chinese Dinosaurs! Protarchaeopteryxes, Jingshanosaurus, and much more.

Suddenly, a dinosaur attacked me! With its legs and hands flying. I couldn’t believe the pain, it felt as if I was crushed by a huge rock. I turned around, finding out that dinosaurs were surrounding us. “Let me think, usually fierce and aggressive dinosaurs are carnivorous since their life revolves around hunting animals, always being suspicious of their surroundings, and always showing no mercy towards their prey. They must think that we’re trying to hunt them! They care about eating their prey most, so we must give them food to show that we are standing by its

side.” I excitedly stated. A short girl took out a bag of sandwiches and carefully fed a dinosaur. The dinosaur’s mood changed as it accepts.

Slowly, we all realized that there was more danger ahead of us... We were trapped here! For some reason, the trees were all stuck together like a wall. There wasn’t any way out to the mountain whenever we passed a tree that was part of the tree wall; we would just be standing by a cliff. The dinosaurs just stared at us menacingly. One dinosaur then sort of motioned toward a small gap in the wall of trees. In a split second, the gap closed! I couldn’t believe it! The dinosaurs were controlling the forest, THEY were trapping us in! I grabbed a stick. Then, I raised the stick threatening the formidable giant. It roared as it stomped on a branch smashing it into tiny pieces. I shuttered. I imagined that I was a dinosaur being encountered by strange and new creatures, I would be so scared! My closed eyes sprang open, they’re not trying to harm us, they are protecting themselves, they think we’re predators. We need to communicate! The only thing we can do is sign language. I remembered the animal language I learned at school. I tried it out as we fed the dinosaurs carefully fed it. It seemed to understand as its aggressive expression softened, and it opened up the route and respectfully bowed upon us.

After the successful journey through two worlds, from a world with reality, matureness, and rules to a land with adventure, dreams, and fantasy, no matter if this journey was real or just from my imagination, it views another life, more powerful than us having patience and the ability to understand the perspective of another being no matter how far away it seems to us may be the key to success. This new world filled with fantasy showed me all this.

# Jiang Yan's Secret Friend

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Shen, Rayna Indigo – 10*

In the remote forest of the Yunnan province, Jiang Yan and her dad set out for their daily hunt. It was a quiet day, and they were not having any luck, so they decided to walk deeper into the forest than usual.

After walking for what felt like hours, Jiang Yan caught a flash of an animal. "Is that a boar?!" she thought to herself excitedly and rushed after it. But as Jiang Yan sped down the path after the frightened boar, Jiang Yan tripped and tumbled uncontrollably down an unknown gorge and landed on a pile of leaves and came to stand in front of a gigantic purple oval shaped body covered with dots. "Is... this an... egg?" muttered the dumbfounded Jiang Yan.

Suddenly Jiang Yan sensed an enormous shadow behind her but before she could turn around, the creature flew in front of her in a blink of an eye and was trying to take flight with the egg but failed. As Jiang Yan tiptoed closer to the being, she observed that it was a gigantic, dark red bird with pink dots on it. It had a pair of sharp front teeth, a thick slimy tail and a head the size of a wheel. "What are you?" the frightened Jiang Yan found herself asking. "I am a pterodactyl," said the huge bird unexpectedly. Jiang Yan could not believe her ears. "So not only are you a dinosaur, but you can also speak?! I thought you only exist in legends!" exclaimed the amazed Jiang Yan. "Yes, we pterodactyls are the guardians of Jinsha (Gold Sand) river since the Han dynasty. For thousands of years, we protect the local people from river floods. We derive our powers of invisibility and speech from the river. However, as you humans drain the Jinsha river in search of gold, we have over time completely lost our power of invisibility and been hunted by the Qian hunters to the point of extinction. I am sadly the last pterodactyl left in China, and I am too weak to hunt for food after giving birth to my egg. In fact, I have not eaten for days." The pterodactyl explained with pain in her voice.

Jiang Yan eagerly offered to help the pterodactyl. After finding Jiang Yan, Jiang Yan's dad, too was shocked by the sight of the Chinese dinosaur. After getting over the shock, he also wanted to help. So, for the next few weeks, the kind-hearted pair hunted extra hard to scavenge food to secretly give to the pterodactyl. With their help, the pterodactyl recovered some strength and was able to fly again.

However, Jiang Yan's secret did not last for long. Jiang Yan's stepmother, realizing that the food Jiang Yan and her dad brought home from the hunts was getting less and less, even though they were spending longer and longer in their daily hunts. Suspicious, she stealthily followed the hunting pair when they set off to the forest and found out their shocking secret.

"You have been keeping this discovery a secret from me?! Do you not realize how much gold we can get from the Qian hunters if we were to share this information with them?" Jiang Yan's stepmother confronted the pair once they were home. "To think the life I could enjoy with this wealth. A big house, servants, silk gowns, and countless jewellery," cackled the stepmother. "I am going to the Qian hunters right now!" Jiang Yan and her dad begged their hardest for her to change her mind, but she would not budge. She was completely overcome with greed.

Crying, Jiang Yan ran out of the house. She ran and ran all the way to the gorge where the pterodactyl lived and helplessly told the pterodactyl about the danger to come. "I am so sorry, please forgive me. I didn't know this would happen. I thought we were careful. What can I do?" cried Jiang Yan in total panic. Surprisingly, the pterodactyl just gave her a soft but sad smile. "Jiang Yan, it is okay. You and your dad have already helped me quite a lot in the past few weeks. I am old and tired of being alone. I miss my family and now I am going to meet them. You have been a big help and accompanied me in the last moments of my life, and I am very grateful for that. I know from the moment that we met that you are a girl of pure heart, and I trust you to take care of my baby whom I deeply love." With tears in its eyes the pterodactyl whispered, "The last thing I can do as a mom is to keep the Qian hunters away from you two." With that the pterodactyl rolled the warm egg into Jiang Yan's hands and flew towards the army of hunters who were approaching fast.

From a distance, Jiang Yan saw her flying friend screech, struggle and fell to the ground. She could hear the faint cheers of the hunters. Jiang Yan slumped onto the floor holding the egg tightly. "I didn't even know your mother's name." Jiang Yan muttered to the egg with tears rolling down her face.

Years later, the baby pterodactyl had grown up well and was named Sacrifice in honour of her mother. Jiang Yan's stepmom had left Jiang Yan's dad and moved to another village after becoming rich which was a blessing for all as she was mean and cruel to Jiang Yan and her dad. Baby Sacrifice's existence was also safe. So, in the end, everyone was happy but work was not done. With the help of the villagers, Jiang Yan and her dad gradually restore the water level of the Jinsha river. And if you go visit the gorge today, maybe, just maybe, you would be lucky enough to see Sacrifice playing with Jiang Yan.

# The Cube to the Past

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lai, Ethan – 11*

“Hey Isaac, you coming?” shouts my best friend, Johnathan, who is inviting me to watch his basketball finals.

How I wish to! I sigh, push my chair under my table, and prepare to leave school. “Nah, sorry, man. My mom is making me do tuition for Chinese, so Asian! Chinese is useless! She says I need to ‘know my roots.’ Like, when will I ever need this stuff?!”

The phone in my pocket buzzes again, and a message pops up, “Don’t be late!”

I start to sprint like Monkey King, zooming past pedestrians and ignoring traffic lights. Cars honk as I dart across red lights. I take the road less travelled, a narrow alley leading to Main Street.

The alley feels like another world. The brick walls are overgrown with moss, and the air smells faintly of earth and rain. A sense of quietness wraps around me, as if the world has paused.

A glowing blue object, ancient looking, lying against the brick wall of a residence caught my eye. I stop in my tracks and pick it up— a small, cube-shaped stone, with engraved intricate designs: a dragon, a phoenix, a qilin, a crow and a rabbit with two other dinosaurs which I vaguely recognize from Chinese myths. Interesting enough, there’s a tiny button.

This is one of those moments when curiosity takes over.

The cube seems to hum in my hands, pulling me in. Despite messages buzzing in my pocket, I... I press the button.

For a moment, nothing happens. Then, dizziness hits me, and I stumble around the narrow alley. Whoa, what’s happening to me? My vision starts to blur as I lose my footing and collapse to the ground. Darkness engulfs me, and my world goes black.

Birds chirp. Wind whistles. I blink against the blinding yellow light as dizziness fades. Slowly, my vision clears. Green everywhere. Not the dull city alley green, but a lush, prehistoric wilderness.

Towering bamboo groves surround me, their trunks wrapped in vines. The ground is a tapestry of plum blossoms and moss. I stumble forward, scanning for signs of civilization, but there’s nothing—just endless vegetation, an untouched landscape that feels like stepping into a Classical Chinese painting.

Ahead of me, a faint yet familiar blue glow catches my eye. I move closer and freeze. It’s a fragment of the glowing cube, engraved with a dinosaur—the *Yutyranus*, a feathered predator from the Early Cretaceous. Memories flood back: Every side had a creature on it and I had found one of the six sides! Realization strikes. The pieces of the cube must be scattered in this prehistoric wilderness, and I need to find them to get home.

I’ve just sharpened a rock into a makeshift knife in time as the ground begins to quake. Leaves rustle, and a shadow looms behind me. The sound of soft growling fills my ears. The heartbeat in my chest quickly accelerates. Slowly, I turn.



A *Guanlong wucaii*, its crest vivid with red and yellow, emerges, growling low and guttural. This is no ordinary dinosaur—it's a relic from Chinese history, a distant relative of the mighty Tyrannosaurus Rex.

It roars, the sound echoing like thunder, and lunges. I dart into the underbrush, heart pounding, dodging branches and vines. Its large foot crushes down on the dirt beside me. Its teeth snap just as I drop down from the vine. It snarls right in my ear. My history lessons flash through my mind. Guanlong means "crowned dragon," a symbol of both power and fragility in ancient ecosystems. But right now, all I can think about is not becoming lunch.

Spotting another low-hanging root from a banyan tree, I leap and swing upward, barely avoiding the snapping jaws. The Guanlong barrels past, momentarily disoriented. Taking the chance, I slide down, landing hard but alive.

As I sprint further, the jungle opens to a wide river. Its surface shimmers, reflecting the glow of another fragment at the bottom. Braving the freezing water, I dive, retrieving the piece just as the Guanlong's roar echoes behind me. Phew! I tricked it!

Roaming around the jungle, I track down the fragments piece by piece: the Phoenix in a cave, the Qilin buried beneath a rocky overhang, and the dragon atop a cliff. I find the Jade Rabbit and the Golden Crow near each other by a tree. Each discovery feels like unlocking a chapter of ancient China's prehistoric past, from the Qilin dinosaur to the Golden Crow.

Finally, only one fragment remains—the cube's centerpiece. I find it in a clearing, glowing faintly. But the Guanlong is there too, waiting.

Its piercing eyes lock on mine, and it charges. I grip my stone knife tightly, dodging its first swipe. As it lunges again, I slide beneath it, slashing at its belly. The creature stumbles, roaring in pain, before collapsing.

Still catching my breath, I piece the fragments back to the cube as its glow intensifies and finally blinding me.

I wake up against a familiar brick wall, dizzy but alive. A grin spreads across my face. I'm home!

Stumbling toward my house, I see Mom pacing on the porch. Her sharp gaze softens when she sees my limp.

"Isaac! What happened to your leg?"

I glance down at the bloodied scratch from the Guanlong. "Uh... tripped on a branch?"

Her expression shifts to worry. "Let's get you to the doctor. I'll buy you ice cream after, okay?"

I nod, suppressing a laugh. Not only have I survived the adventure of a lifetime, but I've also scored ice cream.

Later when I take out the cube fragment, my mind is pulled back to Guanlong, the Yutyranus and the prehistoric jungle. Suddenly my history lessons feel alive. Dinosaurs are not just creatures we read in books— they were part of China's ancient history. I think about how I brushed off my Chinese lessons earlier, calling them "so Asian." I hadn't realized how much of my own history I don't know.

# The Legacy of a Sinosauoteryx

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Le, Natalie – 11*

Cling! Clang! The *unbearable* racket reverberated through the moist soil that ricocheted off the reminiscence of my body. A shrill voice warbled through the layers and blankets of soil, travelling through the layer of time and dust that separated me from that unidentifiable creature.

“Eureka! We’ve unearthed a fossil!” A grubby finger delicately yanked my tailbone out and examined it in the glaring light. Wide eyes stared, amazed at me, gaping and stroking the lumpy form of what was left of me.

“It’s a Sinosauropteryx!!” yelled another creature.

Just like that, the incessant commotion commenced. Metal poles and scrapers and sticks were plunged in, then jerked out carrying gigantic pieces of earth. The tools were munching away the soil that blanketed my bare body. The cloud of dust clogged my senses. Parts of my fossil seemed to be compressed by the crushing air, bits and bobs shattering to be blended in the wet earth. Fingers fumbled for parts of my body and stripped it away, tearing me out into the blaze of sunshine. Sunshine. When was the last time I felt it caress my skin? A rush of memories seeped through my skull in a tornado of emotions, twirling and engulfing me to a time when I still could roam freely around.

I was merely a dinosaur with no value when it happened. The sky was dipped in a majestic shade of velvet and magenta, with a humongous melting sun framed in the middle. The lush fields held dinosaurs who were chomping the grass heartedly. Everything seemed to be perfect. Until it wasn’t.

BOOM! The noise shook the whole earth around me. The tip of the mountain was blown off, stifling hot smoke ejecting out of it. Pieces of rock soared through the air, plummeting into the canopy of trees. The foliage shot bright red, disintegrated into withered nothingness. Desperate pleas, cries, and wails. Stomping feet were engulfed in the depths of the slithering lava, which coiled around the dinosaurs without mercy.

“RUN!” I yelled, shooting my feet forwards as other dinosaurs took my lead.

“Where?” Horrified chokes of agony trailed behind me as I went.

“The water! The lake!” My heart banged against my chest and I urged my stubby legs to keep moving. The uncertainty of survival pierced through me—would this be the last moment of my life? My breath came in sharp pangs, but all I cared about was the body of blue. Come on...come on! My legs were slicing through liquid, splashing water up as other dinosaurs tripped and stumbled behind me. I submerged my whole body underwater, not daring to lift it up an inch. Grasping haphazardly around, my claws enclosed on a wood trunk. I swung my legs around it and paddled my feet. I could not bear it anymore. I lifted my head up, gasping for oxygen. Somehow, all the muffled screams and yells seemed to die out. A few dinosaurs were bobbing hopelessly in the water, not pushing their way away from the cascade of red.

“Our home’s destroyed.” The red inferno engulfed the whole world, blazing with its red, slithering tongue. Everything was gone.

I woke up with a startle. My heart was thumping hard. Its fast drumming intermixed with the shrieks of agony that still reverberated in my head. The scene of horror from 20 years ago still haunted me inconsolably. Now, dry, desolate earth stretched for millions of acres that was once lush land. Scattered trees with withered branches were

gnarled and twisted and thirsting for water. The sky sunk in a deep shade of grey, the clouds blocked any streams of sunshine. Dinosaurs huddled around their nests, dribbling any last drop of water into their baby's mouth. Every dinosaur wore a hopeless expression, longing for water, food, and for the eruptions to end. All dinosaur kinds crumpled to the ground and never got up again. I laid there, stomach not having the strength to gurgle, staring blankly up at the colourless sky.

Rumble—RUMBLE... the earth shook violently. I lifted my eyelids, noticing a sudden scurry of movement. The dinosaurs rose up from their nests, glancing around at the shaking trees.

"Something's falling from above!" cried one of the triceratops, pointing frantically at the ominously clouding sky.

I could see an apple sized rock soaring across the clouds. Its glistening red became more and more obvious. A spec, then a figure, finally a humongous pelting rock. The speed of it compressed the whipping air around it, penetrating ever closer, ever nearer. The dinosaurs around me began to backtrack, all transfixed by the glowing rock that torqued its way towards them.

"Don't let us all die! Save us again!" a strangled scream wailed. My hopeless eyes scanned the huddle of mortified dinosaurs, whose faces were gaunt with edges of bone protruding out from old wounds. One dinosaur then gave a earsplitting, heart shattering scream, and crumpled to the ground, spluttering incomprehensibly. Its eyes rolled backwards, its body limp. The pleading eyes of the dinosaurs pierced my veins—their trust that somehow, I could pause all this disaster that was pelting and smashing our lives into pieces. A heavy rock thudded to the pit of my stomach. Dinosaurs were bellowing and pleading. Instantly all was quiet. I was falling, tumbling, plummeting through a never-ending abyss, towards Death's welcoming arms.

I pulled my thoughts together and yanked myself back to reality. I was here, in an absurd looking glass case, being meticulously examined. "If we take this to the museum, we could be bursting with cash!" cried an alien creature, craning his head. Here, I didn't have to endure countless friends crumpling at my feet. I was safe here, with no chance of harm. But was this what I really wanted, to be stared at by beings? Was this what I wanted, to bury my memories behind, to bury the truth? To leave my legacy behind...?

# The Dinosaur Adventure

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lee, Brian – 11*

As I crept inside the musty attic, an eerie hush embraced me, as if the house itself was holding its breath. The air felt extremely heavy, infused with an invisible force. A giant dusty device in a corner caught my attention as its surface glistened within the dim light. It seems like it was murmuring the secrets of a long-forgotten era—an era I was both spooked but ecstatic to learn about. As I approached the mysterious mechanism, I felt a tingling sensation. I felt like I was connecting with the machine. I stepped inside of it and—BANG! The door immediately slammed shut. My heart skipped a beat. I was hit by the fact that I was stuck in the machine. As I turned around, I noticed that there was a monitor. On the monitor, it displayed two big words. Two words that were going to change my perspective on life. Two words that could turn my life around. Time Machine.

I wasted absolutely no time. I rushed over to the glowing control panel and dialed it to 100 million years. I was so excited. I could be the first person to be alive in the prehistoric ages. Just then, I felt a powerful jolt, as if I was on the world's most horrifying roller coaster. My eyes flashed beneath my eyes. After what seemed like a second, the machine came to a stop. The dusty attic magically turned into a prehistoric landscape with towering tropical trees and dominant dinosaur roars could be heard. My heart was about to come out of my chest. Is this a dream? I was flabbergasted. I was speechless. I was astonished. I was flabbergasted. I carefully tiptoed through the tropical forest, attempting not to disturb the living organisms existing in this forest. As I walked through the forest, I heard the melodious tunes coming from the voices of different varieties of dino-birds.

Just then, a leaf fell on my shoulder, so I gently picked it up and brought it up to my nose. The natural aroma shot up, my whole body as if it was a taser gun. So minty. So fresh.

Out of the blue, I heard a loud but peaceful stomp on the floor. That was when I spotted my first dinosaur—a Huayangosaurus. It was ginormous. It had an extremely short neck, and it was effortlessly reaching high. It was also grazing gracefully on the lush green treetops. I was completely filled with awe, and my heart raced the millisecond I saw it.

A few minutes later, I stumbled upon my second dinosaur—an Alxasaurus. It looked like a big lizard! It was so funny that I had to suppress my laughter. It was bending over to drink from a crystal-clear translucent river. It was extremely awkward. Suddenly, it slipped and the whole body fell into the river! I was so amused by its clumsiness and even felt a connection.

Next, I spotted a Tuojiangosaurus. It looked just like its more famous relative, the Stegosaurus. The spikes behind its back were truly horrifying, but my curiosity was much stronger than my fears. As I inched closer, I realized that the spikes behind the dinosaur's back were much bigger than I thought they were.

While I was watching the Tuojiangosaurus, a Velociraptor ran past. It was small and agile, and it seemed to be in a curious and playful mood. It walked closer to me and observed me with its keen, bright eyes. It was obvious that it meant no harm. I was fascinated and felt like I was being tested.

I continued walking and finally saw the final dinosaur of my journey—a Gobisaurus. Its neck was so small, just like the Huayangosaurus. It had a lot of tiny spikes on its back, which seemed a lot sharper than the ones of the Tuojiangosaurus. As I continued to walk, I suddenly dropped into a hole! I crash-landed onto the floor littered with a bunch of dinosaur bones and skeletons! I gasped. It was the most traumatizing but interesting thing I had ever encountered in my life. I decided to follow the path and take notes and pictures. I planned to share my findings with scientists when I got back to the present.

As the crescent moon loomed over, I took a final glance at the wonderful dinosaurs and waved farewell to all of them as I went back inside the time machine, thinking of the marvellous prehistoric creatures that I had witnessed.

# Tale of the Lost Dinosaur

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lee, Jian Si Sophie – 11*

The paleontologist, decked out in desert-proof gear, stooped down and continued digging. The excavation was long, and the work tiring, but she didn't mind. To her, it was the most exciting part!

She excavated subconsciously, imagining colossal and world-shaking fossils, until her fingers brushed something solid. *Bone*. She jumped up, ecstatic, and dug it out. A... femur? She squinted at the ginormous bone. It was larger than the Titanosaur's femur, a dinosaur found last century... in 2024?... nearby in Jiangxi.

She quickly whipped out a measuring tape from her kit, and measured it. Three metres long! Now she was bouncing on her haunches exuberantly, examining the bone for telltale signs of it belonging to the gargantuan sauropods.

She reached for the secret pocket of her kit, and hesitated. She had a single-use, excruciatingly-expensive gadget that could show the life of a newly-discovered dinosaur. However... if it was a previously-discovered species... ten million dollars, gone!

She took a deep breath, reaching for the hologram-thingamajig. The device scanned the bone, and a profile popped up with "Titanaiosean" as the name, and "?" as the species. There was a warning message, "Caution! There is no protection from gruesome scenes."

She swallowed apprehensively, and clicked "Play". A forest filled the screen with colourful flora and trees such as ginkgos and conifers. A gargantuan luscious green and pink flower resembled a treehouse, and inside, a mother dinosaur, large and surprisingly pink, watched expectantly as a green egg hatched. A small and luminous green dinosaur emerged, unbelievably cute as it stared at its humongous mother.

The green dinosaur snuggled up against its mother, and fell asleep. The hologram flashed through years of scenes: a large dinosaur announcing the baby's name, Titanaiosean; a birthday leaf brunch; meeting the village leaders; a leaf collecting party led by Titanaiosean's father; and then, a neighbour informing his mother of his father's disappearance. No body. No burial. Just grief.

Years passed. Titanaiosean became the best leaf collector of the village, and took care of his aging mother. One day, he overheard a dinosaur talking about disappearances. Curious, Titanaiosean asked what the dinosaur knew. The dinosaur lowered his voice, and whispered, "Rumour has it that a gargantuan carnivore living in the volcano has been eating herbivores from the villages for two decades!"

The disappearances continued, with more and more dinosaurs urging the leaders to raid the volcano. One day, even one of the leaders disappeared; his skeleton delivered outside the village at dawn. The two remaining leaders, wallowing in grief, decided to act. Two of the best dinosaurs were to sneak into the volcano. The village waited for their return, hoping for victory... but two more skeletons showed up the next morning.

Panic rippled through the village. How could they stand up against the carnivore? What could they do while their loved ones were dying and their peace was crumbling? That day, everyone teared up, sobbing dinosaurs as far as the eye could see – miserable dinosaurs leaning their necks against each other, just wanting some solace before their world ended.

Titanaiosean knew something had to be done. Anything. He had made awesome friends, met an awesome spouse, Titania, and started an awesome family. How could he protect them?

Time flew by, and more and more dinosaurs disappeared; with three previously sizeable villages merging into just one small village, and up to five dinosaurs lost a day. That was when it happened. He saw a dark shadow carrying five carcasses, and stiffened. The sight triggered a memory.

He was a young dinosaur again. His father told a story, “There were many disappearances a long time ago. Your grandfather discovered a secret. Our bloodline is special, and our fangs contain enough poison to kill a giant carnivore! But to do this, Grandfather needed to pour his life force into the poison, and he wouldn’t survive. He didn’t want to die, but had to kill the giant carnivore. Unfortunately, the carnivore had a son who vowed to kill all of us in revenge. The son got my brother, but he hasn’t gotten me yet!”

Titanaiouscan flashed back to the present. The shadow was gone. He knew what he had to do, but ...could he? He went back in, and told Titania. She sobbed into his shoulder, and he cradled her, breaking into his own tears. His family, his life, his world, he would leave it all behind. How could he? How could he not? More dinosaurs were dying everyday. He wished he was selfish, and less concerned with others. But he wasn’t. He was a dinosaur who would do anything, everything, to save his kin.

The next day, having informed the leaders, he volunteered to go. It was strangely surreal, knowing he was about to die. He would watch over his family from the skies. The battle whirled past him, warriors distracting the carnivore until he could get close to it. He lunged forward, bracing himself for the impact, and bit down as hard as he could. Life slowed. He was conscious only of the excruciating, worse-than-death pain. He looked up, and saw the dying carnivore, and he was happy, even though the venom kept gushing out of his fangs, draining his life with it. Titania, and their children stood over him, pleading for him not to go. He felt himself draining away, and he whispered, “I... love... yo—”.

The paleontologist wiped away her tears as the hologram slowly winked away. She had learned so much from the life of Titanaiouscan, and she had a new goal: To let the world know how brave and amazing these dinosaurs were. Soaking the bone and sand beneath her with tears, she saved the video of this phenomenal dinosaur to her phone. Solemnly, she took the bone back to her teammates, and showed them the video. By the end, they were all in tears too. But there was one thing left to do. She named the dinosaur species: “Gargantosaurus” and the sub-species “Poisouraus”.

# Whispers of the Past

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Levenishiti, Arion – 11*

In the summer of 1996, the sun bathed the sprawling plains of Liaoning Province, China, in a warm golden glow. A group of paleontologists, led by the ambitious Dr. Hui Fen, embarked on a groundbreaking expedition journey which would revolutionize the entire world's understanding of dinosaurs. Their mission was to unearth the secrets buried under the layers of earth, the secrets that whispered the tales of the long lost, forgotten ancient creatures.

Dr. Hui Fen had a huge passion for dinosaurs. His fascination began as a child, who was inspired by the myths of dragons that danced in his grandmother's stories. The legends spoke that magnificent creatures once soared in the sky with their scales dazzling like diamonds. Now, as a leading paleontologist, he was determined to find a connection between the myths and the awaiting discovery of fossils.

The expedition team consisted of 5 members: Dr. Hui Fen, Dr. Xiaoling Wang, Dr. Hui Fen's childhood friend and rival, Dr. Lian Zhao, a skilled fossil preparation and two eager graduate students, Li and Mei. The atmosphere buzzed in excitement, but beneath that thrill, a current of rivalry crackled between Li and Mei. They both were eager to make a name for themselves with the next big dinosaur discovery.

The expedition team set their camp near an ancient riverbed. Their quest to find dinosaur fossils had begun and the team felt the weight of history on their shoulders. The team needed to find something grand, great that would illuminate the fascinating evolution of these incredible creatures.

The team searched and searched but nothing was found. Days turned into weeks as they carefully searched the sediments. But in the fourth week, Dr. Lian Zhao cried, "I think I've found something!" Everyone rushed over, with their hearts pounding like a drum. Buried under clay and rock was a beautiful, stunning fossil, revealing the shape of a creature with a long neck and giant limbs.

"Could it be a Titanosaur? Are the rumors true?" gasped Dr. Hui Fen as he nervously darted his eyes.

Dr. Xiaoling Wang approached with a smirk, but inside he could feel a huge wave of jealousy. "Let's not get ahead of ourselves. It could just be another theropod." What if this discovery belonged to Dr. Hui Fen instead of him?

The team worked hard to dig up the fossil. Li and Mei started to notice the tension between their mentors, Dr. Hui Fen and Dr. Xiaoling Wang. Despite their rivalry, the team was excited about the discovery.

After endless hours of work, examining the fossil, the team sat around a camp and brainstormed ideas on how to present their findings. Dr. Hui Fen spoke passionately about how important their work was, hoping that they would find a connection between these fossils and the ancient myths.

The discussion got heated and their rivalry had begun to turn personal.

Days went by, and the team and the excavation continued. Weeks of hard work went by, but it had been done. The giant fossil had finally, fully been unearthed. It was the mighty titanosaur. One of the biggest land creatures to ever roam the earth. Dr. Hui Fen was overjoyed. He had finally found the link in these fossils and the myths that danced in his grandmother's stories. The rumors, the myths, they were all true!

As they celebrated their achievement, the competition between Dr. Hui Fen and Dr. Xiaoling Wang still lingered. Dr. Xialoing Wang, worried that Dr. Hui Fen would take all the credit, suggesting that they present their findings together. “We’re stronger as a team,” said Dr. Xialing Wang, trying hard to hide the bitterness. “Let’s co-author the paper.”

Dr. Hui Fen hesitated as he remembered their arguments. But he knew working together was important. “Let’s do it!” said Dr. Hui Fen shaking hands.

The team named the titanosaur the Jiangxisauraus after being found in Jiangxi province. Dr. Hui Fen and Dr. Xialing Wang shared a moment of respect. They had turned their rivalry into partnership, realising that true discovery comes from working together. Their journey had not only uncovered a forgotten giant but had also built a new understanding between them.



# The Legends of Longzaiqors

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lin, Alicia – 10*

In nearly all parts of the world, paleontologists discover dinosaur bones. However, there existed another type of creature that remains untraceable. They existed long before dinosaurs roamed the Earth and were descendants of an alien species called *Longzaiqor*. Longzaiqors were majestic creatures with bodies stretching 500 feet long and their bodies were covered in scales that shifted color like a living rainbow. The scales were not just beautiful, they were tougher than any armor and could withstand extreme temperature. There were only a few hundred Longzaiqors on Earth, and all dinosaurs possessed some of their DNA. They possessed incredible intelligence and wisdom. They had supernatural abilities, being able to fly over the highest mountains and swim in the deepest oceans. They communicated with all living things through their minds and could foresee changes in weather. The Longzaiqors goal was to protect all living things on Earth, allowing them to develop and evolve for hundreds of millions of years.

Using their special abilities, they discovered something terrifying, a massive asteroid was heading straight for Earth. Instead of accepting their fate, they searched for a way to continue life on Earth. In the deepest parts of oceans, they created a chamber to hibernate and to shield themselves from extinction. But given the limited space of the chamber, they could not save all life forms on Earth, including their beloved dinosaurs. Inside the chamber, they built a massive vault that stored the building blocks of life for millions of Earth's life forms. As the asteroid approached and the sky grew dark, Longzaiqors gathered their dinosaur friends for one final goodbye. Tears streamed down Longzaiqors' faces as the mighty T-Rex families, normally fierce, bowed their heads in silence. A gentle Brachiosaurus stretched its long neck forward, softly touching each Longzaiqor as if trying to say, "We understand". With heavy hearts, the Longzaiqors made a heartbreaking decision to go into extreme hibernation, leaving behind everything they knew.

Millions of years passed. The Earth recovered from the asteroid impact. Life forms could once again be created and evolve. Longzaiqors awakened and planted DNA of life forms they preserved throughout Earth. The destructive asteroid event taught them not to interfere with evolving species and to keep their existence a secret. Longzaiqors lived in the caves of the highest mountains, away from a new intelligent life form, humans.

One morning, during a massive earthquake, a baby Longzaiqor was struck by falling rocks in the cave and did not yet have the power to escape. All the adult Longzaiqors were away doing their daily surveillance in the clouds that weakened their ability to detect the earthquake. The baby Longzaiqor was trapped and dying. The baby's unlikely savior was a young human named Fu Xi (伏羲). Fu Xi was hunting in the mountains when he heard something from a dark cave that made him freeze. The scream sounded like singing and thunder mixed together. His heart pounded like a drum as he slowly went deeper into the dark cave. What he saw made him stunned and scared, a creature he had never seen before with scales shining like jewels, trapped under fallen rocks. Fu Xi would help free the baby Longzaiqor despite his fear of its massive size. This act of kindness started an amazing bond between Longzaiqors and Fu Xi. Since that day, Fu Xi called Longzaiqors by their nickname, Long (龙).

Longzaiqors became secret teachers of Fu Xi, sharing their knowledge of astronomy, farming, and music. Through this knowledge, Fu Xi started the Chinese civilization and became the first emperor of China. Longzaiqors also had a special gift, their blood could heal, and their bones as medicine could extend life. They decided to share their gifts with Fu Xi and other worthy Chinese emperors like the Yellow Emperor (黄帝) and the Yan Emperor (炎帝). The gifts allowed the emperors to rule over China in harmony for hundreds of years. To thank the Longzaiqors, the Chinese emperors asked their people to describe the Longzaiqors in their texts and paintings, and the Chinese would call themselves as the Descendants of Long (龙的传人).

But good things don't last forever. The Kings of the West heard about the gifts of Longzaiqors and the secret to the immortality of the Chinese emperors. For thousands of years, they built armies and sent groups of spies to invade and conquer China to access Longzaiqor's blood and bones. The Kings of the West also spread rumors in their

tales and stories about the evil deeds of Longzaiqors and called them Dragons, which were later linked to demons. The Kings of the West offered grand rewards, including knighthood, for those able to capture dragons dead or alive. During the Zhou Dynasty, greedy Chinese officials traded Longzaiqor's blood and bones with Kings of the West in exchange for riches and gold. These greedy officials also helped hunt down the Longzaiqors. Behind the scenes, the Zhou Dynasty emperor himself secretly allowed this terrible trade to continue in order to fund the dynasty's growing army and weapons. The Longzaiqors were heartbroken. As their numbers decreased and feeling betrayed, the Longzaiqors made a difficult choice by returning to their hibernation chamber in the ocean and entering into a deep sleep.

Before they disappeared, they left behind a prophecy that they would return only when humans learned to live in harmony with nature and stopped being greedy. Some say Longzaiqors still have secret watchers among us today, waiting for signs that we are ready for their return.

In 2030, a group of paleontologists discovered an ancient cave at the peak of Mount Everest. There were ancient Chinese scriptures carved inside this cave. At the center of the cave was a Longzaiqor skull and a poem that read:

When ancient wisdom seeps into your mind,  
And peace weaves gently through your heart to find.  
There dawns the day is when we unite,  
Where Earth's children shine so bright.

# The Find

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lin, Ruien – 10*

“We are never going to find any fossils in this condition, what are they expecting us to do, Alexis?” Heathor, who had been working alongside me in the thick fog, sent me into cogitation. True. What did they want us to do? We’ve uncovered a few pieces of fossils, right, but that was so small, too insignificant. I looked up at the curtain of fog. It hung, covering our uncertain future of the dig, so impenetrable, ever so unscrupulous, so evil. We probably wouldn’t find anything more. Even the pieces we found just now seemed unreasonable. Impossible to piece together. In fact, I was doubting whether they were fossils at all. For all I know, it could be just a few pieces of unimportant rocks...

“We’re taking the rest of the day off, Heathor. We’ll come back tomorrow.” I sighed. Heathor didn’t argue.

“Alexis, it’s going to be alright, at least we can come back home, unlike paleontologists who came to help,” cooed Heathor, as I leaned against the wall of the vacant hallway.

“Yeah, I know.” My little sister was always so good at soothing me and comforting me when I’m upset. Brows knitted together, my lips white from biting, I drew myself upright. “Heathor, I think you should give up.” Heathor shook her head. I leaned back once again. “But there’s no chance! I don’t want to waste your time. Your professors are probably going crazy about you not turning up for lessons. I know you like paleontology, but you should learn first.”

“No, Alexis, I know what I’m on. I know you care about me, but seriously, I don’t need more crazy European or American professors telling me that China won’t be able to develop into a busy paleontology centre!” Her voice was firm and convincing, yet I still had a hassle in my brain on whether or not to let Heathor stay. Sure, she had been a godsend, turning up a week ago at midday. And then it all came to me. How she’d ended up staying at the dig with me, how a great help she’d been during these hardest days, when our senior paleontologists had fallen sick, one by one. Yes, now I remember it clearly, as if it had happened just yesterday...

I was hunched over my assigned grid, sweat trickling down my forehead, dripping onto the mud. I couldn’t take it anymore — my knees were trembling and sore, my limbs ached more and more by the second. Just as I stood up after what seemed like an eternity of struggle with my muscles, I saw a slim shape appear out of the blue, standing in the fog. I stood up, and immediately the figure moved towards me, lithe, agile, and deft, a shadow amongst the throng of people, yet I immediately recognized her. “What are you doing here, Heathor?” I called. She didn’t respond forthwith, so I drew myself to my full height and hollered, “Heathor, come here, girl!” Now, of course that drew a lot of confused looks and attention from my collaborators, yet I couldn’t care just then. Heathor began running towards me, and I would have told her off right at the spot, only I had a big dig to care about. A white bone was sticking out of the ground, and she had kneeled with me, little by little, pushing the brown, fine and sandy soil away from the bone, as I brushed sand off the delicate white fossil.

Heathor tapped me on my shoulder, bringing me back. I sank into the armchair and sighed. The memories had been... overwhelming. “Heathor, you know what? I’ll let you stay.” It was all too troublesome. If it hadn’t been for the dwindling numbers of my colleagues — most of whom gave up left due to the lack of confidence.

“Okay, Heathor, don’t mess around, focus on our assigned grid, okay?” I whispered to my younger sister.

“Alexis, you know I’m not dumb!” Heathor shoved me. Immediately, I fell onto my knees. Something hard struck me by my left shin.

“Ow! What the... Heathor, stop putting the pebbles we unearthed back into the dirt!” I moaned, exasperated.

Heathor shook her head. “I didn’t.” I frowned. Then my lower lip dropped in shock and astonishment. Heathor’s eyes widened. “You don’t reckon...?” I bit my lips. Without uttering one more word, we both picked up

our shovels and, as fast as lightning, ploughed through the sand around the area. A speck of greyish white started to appear. It grew bigger and bigger as sand flew out of the pit. Finally, we had revealed a tip of a fossil, a big fossil. Probably a limb bone.

More bones. More fossils. More. More. Heathor seemed awestruck as me and my colleagues unearthed a steady supply of fossils and bones. The legs. The ribs. The skull — the skull! It was nearly complete. Well, nearly. But missing a few bones won't knock off any value of this precious find. We'll find them later. At least we'll come back and do a simple final check...

"Hey sis, c'mere! Look at this! 'New species of dinosaur found in Zhongchang'! That's the one we found!" Heathor squealed all the way from her bedroom at home.

I pushed myself out of the cushions of my bed, hollering, "I told you it was bound to appear in the newspaper!" A smile spread across my face. Our work hadn't been in vain. We *did* find something. Something significant. Something notable. Something remarkable, worthy of attention. I felt proud of myself, of my sister. We had achieved the impossible, and we were going on to accomplish and fulfill even more. So was our country. I believe that China would become a center of the world in paleontology, just with a little more hard work, and that this find would just be one of hundreds of thousands of finds in the nation. Well, let that be my goal and my dream for now, then.

# The Tale of Lufu the Lufengosaurus

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Liu, Catherine – 10*

Once upon a time, about a hundred million years ago, the Lufengosaurus roamed the land. They were known for their long necks and tails, and for eating the lush vegetation of the fertile earth. The large reptiles could often be seen using their long tails to reach for the tall trees and eat the delicious foliage, enjoying every last bit of precious food. Here is an ancient tale of a memorable incident that humans uncovered by a single faint fish bite mark on a Lufengosaurus bone uncovered by a palaeontologist.

Lufu was an intelligent, 100-day-old Lufengosaurus who liked to explore and dreamt of being the “Leader of the Tribe” when he was older. There were seven leadership roles in the tribe: Thinker, the adviser; Leader, the decider; Watcher, the sentry; Saver, the doctor and lifeguard; Carer, the counsellor; and Scarer, who are the soldiers. Grandma Lafa was an old but experienced and smart dinosaur. She had once been assigned the “Thinker”, but due to her age, she had passed the job to another young dinosaur.

After his 100-day age ceremony which granted him eligibility to access the roaring River of the Insidious, Lufu immediately pleaded with Father to take him there. Father smiled and answered, “Of course, darling. But beware of the deep areas. You will either drown by the current or get tangled by the long weeds.” Lufu remembered his words and Father took him to the river, bathing and drinking in the shallow waters of the small land.

From then on, Lufu visited the river almost every day. Every time he visited, he stared at the turquoise, sparkling, vegetation-covered deep water. He then reminded himself that it was unsafe, but his desire to swim in the deep waters soon left him impulsive. So when he was finally 200 days old, he told himself that he was ready and tall enough to bathe in those waters. So he took a deep breath, closed his eyes, and dove into the crystal-clear water.

At first, everything seemed perfect! Lufu was relaxing, chomping away the scrumptious weeds on the riverbed while cooling down in the cool water. The sun shone, leaving sparkles dancing at the water's surface. The respectable oaks cast their shadow of worry across the river but soon turned away. Lufu enjoyed every moment of the hidden paradise. Oh, how he yearned that he found out about this earlier!

Soon, the current grew stronger than he anticipated! The water pulled him metres deeper into the tremendous river, and the eerie sound of nothing entered his ears. Soon, the distinct “click-clack” of the crab, the swishing of the monstrously large fish, and the oozing sound of the clam were audible. He felt the piercing pain of a fish biting him until the bone and Lufu was...

Lost.

Lost in the underwater world.

He struggled to relax. The voices in his head cooed, “Ha! Look! The naughty, rulebreaker Lufu the Lufengosaurus! Hear, hear!”

The words of Father echoed in his head “But beware of the deep areas. You will either drown by the current or get tangled by the weeds.” Lufu bit his lip and imagined Father angrily telling him, “You are no son of mine. Now, go away and never come back.” A flood of memories rushed back. Lufu begging Father to go to the river; Father jumping into the river with him; Father saying that he is proud of him; Lufu turning 100... Lufu regretted breaking Father's trust towards him.

Suddenly, two familiar paws reached out to grab his tail, tugging him towards the surface. After he scrutinized the situation, he realized it was not just one dinosaur, it was the entire tribe, forming a chain as the water was too deep. The next thing he knew, he fainted in the struggle.

When Lufu finally awoke, he saw Father's worried face tilted towards him. He was lying on a mossy rock near the river on a grass field. "You finally woke up!" he said in relief.

Lufu stuttered, "S-sorry. I-I should have listened to you-I... thought I could do it... alone, all by myself!"

Father comforted reassuringly, "It's okay. But promise me one simple thing," Lufu nodded eagerly, "You will never go into those deep waters again, okay?"

Lufu agreed, "Of course! I will remember this for the rest of my life!"

Father, with a sparkle in his eye, said slowly, "It's normal to be curious and brave, Lufu, but wisdom comes with experience. We share our knowledge to help you avoid danger. Remember, asking for advice is not a sign of weakness; it's a step toward strength."

With that being said, he left the field.

Lufu wiped a tear from his scaly wrinkled skin and covered his eyes with a paw. How dare he not follow Father's wise instructions? How dare he put himself in danger despite his elder's constant reminders? He could not believe how terrible a dinosaur he had been. He felt a sense of guilt and regret. He promised himself he would not put himself in danger for such a ridiculous reason... ever again.

Another 100 days... It was the time for Lufu to take on a role in the tribe. When it came to Lufu's turn to receive a role, Leader Niden announced, "Lufu had been a hard-working and well-taught young dinosaur. He has never approached the Lake after his father had made him promise. This trustworthy young one will be the future leader of this tribe!". His dream has come true! He could not help smiling joyfully, happy tears flowing down his cheeks. He could see Father and Mother huddled together at the front row of neatly arranged rocks covered with moss, with smiles as bright as the sun. An applause followed as Lufu bowed, grateful.

Wisdom is gained through experience. Listening to the advice of those who have walked the path before you can save you.

# Chronicles of the Dinosaurs

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Liu, Emma Siyao – 11*

## ***Are mythical Nian sightings actually surviving Dinosaurs?***

*The Nian is a Chinese mythological creature that is said to terrorize villages on Chinese New Years until one day their fear of the color red and firecrackers were exploited by the villagers to chase them away.*

Here is the home. We live in the forest. There is the village. I am not to go there. Here is the family. Mother. Father. I. We are the last dinosaurs. Hear the birds, *cheep-cheep*. Mother, do you hear the birds? Mother smiles, laughs, laughs, dangles her head over the tall trees. Father clumps behind on four stumpy feet. Father, do you hear the humans go *chitter-chatter*? Father, can I play with the humans? I will play with the humans.

See the humans they trickle and *chitter-chatter* on the way to the village follow along *quietly* don't step on the leaves don't step on the branches! snap-snap-snap!

Here comes the village here are the humans they run to the village follow the humans quick quick quick follow them through the village past the pots pans and barrels *crash-clatter-clash* follow along humans scatter left and right left and right

Rat-Tat-Tat-Tat and a flash of red light Bang-Bang-Bang-Bang-Bang-Bang flashes-of-red flashes-of-light leave the village run past the branches-leaves-forest-home mother... hide behind mother!

## ***Dinosaur Excavated in Hong Kong Port Island***

*In 2013, the first ever dinosaur fossil in Hong Kong was unearthed, dating back to the Cretaceous period 66 million years ago, coinciding with the Chicxulub asteroid extinction event.*

The two met in blackness.

A seamless sky roiling with suffocating ash plumes melted into cloudy water, a boiling ocean, and an acrid dead sky. The clouds tore and bled droplets of ash and metal.

There came a pained dragging of feet, as the emaciated giant trudged forth. It surveyed its surroundings, before continuing its laborious slog forwards. The eviscerated remains of other unlucky travellers regarded it, leering through hollow sockets, proffering a mirthless smile. It lumbered onwards in desperate single-mindedness, the ground shuddering slightly as it hauled its frame through deepening banks of ash, an indifferent shrug from Mother Nature. Familiar landscapes were now rendered alien. Desiccated trees stood lining the giant's path, rooted stoutly in the scorched ground, branches weighed down by toxic frost.

There came anguished wails, as something darted forth in a starved frenzy, with the scrabbling of taloned hands desperately clawing itself forward, clinging to its shortening mortal coil. And yet it continued on.

*New Hong Kong Science Museum Fossil Exhibit To Be Reopened, Now With Most Recently Reconstructed Dinosaurs*

Dear Dinosaur,

I can only imagine the ruckus it would cause, herbivores and carnivores stuck in the same room jostling for elbow room. What a mess. Sounds like a hackneyed joke.

Let me begin again.

I think back to the time, in that newly opened exhibit, staring at the plaster and beams and metal joints keeping dinosaur skeletons delicately mounted behind the glass, staring in wonderment as to why they'd exhume a cadaver to be hoisted up for display. It's a corpse – a corpse should be laid to rest, and not be stuck like that forever.

Your species survived for more than 180 million years, and us Homo Sapiens account for only 0.16% of your extensive reign, your distant cousins hundreds of millions of years removed. We only gave up hunting, gathering and a nomadic lifestyle, and instead transitioned to an agrarian society 12,000 years ago.

It gives one a pause to imagine what the planets forbearers like yourselves were like. Did you loll in fields, bask in the sunlight, wonder at the world lush with vegetation and vibrant ecosystems around you? Were the jungles and the tropics and the forests fostering communities of exotic exuberance, or in fact as violent and depraved as we imagine?

I recall walking through the Science Museum to try to catch a glimpse, and picture stories long since forgotten of your past grandeur, tales of triumph and survival. In our own way, we also face challenges and changes. We are stewards of this planet now, tasked with protecting the very ecosystem you once inhabited. As we learn from your past, we strive to protect our future. The lessons of resilience, adaptation and harmony with nature echo through time.



# From Dinosaurs to Birds

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Liu, Leah – 10*

As the sun rose in the lush, ancient Liaoning province, two little Sinosauropteryx dinosaurs banged as hard as they could on their grandpa's door.

Grandpa Sinosauropteryx shook his head groggily and groaned "Who's there?" The two little Sinosauropteryxes charged right through the door as the grandfather of the two opened the door, and startled him.

The two Sinosauropteryx dinosaurs were siblings, Roar being the older one and Rocky the younger one. Both of them were panting very hard and had beads of sweat rolling down their forehead. Roar caught her breath and said frantically "Grandpa! Chaos is right outside your house! There is a huge Titanosaur on your lawn eating your plants!"

"What? What are they doing? Wait, you're saying they ate the Cycadopsida trees I replanted yesterday?" Grandpa exclaimed.

Rocky and Roar said frightfully, with their little claws shaking and their long tail tucked between their strong, muscular legs nodded slightly "Yes. They are."

Grandpa gasped and threw off his blanket hurriedly then followed Rocky and Roar outside to the lush lawn filled with Cycadopsida trees. Liaoning really had an abundance of them. The Titanosaurs swept their long necks across the lawn, looking for more leaves to devour. In order to get to the fresh, young leaves, the Titanosaur thrashed its long necks at the three dinosaurs. Rocky and Roar, being young dinosaurs were quick and alert, dove out of the way just in the nick of time. Grandpa was not so lucky, the Titanosaur's neck hit him straight in the face, and he sank into unconsciousness. Roar gasped and rushed to Grandpa's side, to her relief, Grandpa was still breathing. She used her strong tail to drag Grandpa into the house.

When the gigantic Titanosaur wasn't looking, Rocky collected some little stones and scampered up into a tree then threw the stones at the Titanosaur's eyes. The Titanosaur screeched and fled, leaving Rocky alone. Rocky trotted back into the house and lay on the ground next to Roar and Grandpa. "He's not waking up," said Roar quietly.

"He might. One last time," said Rocky.

Rocky was right. Grandpa lifted his head and said weakly "Listen, you must learn to fly, so that you can attack those dinosaurs from above, and escape any other attacks in order to keep our species from going extinct." And with that, Grandpa's chest did not rise anymore, he was gone.

Grandpa was gone forever.

Gone from their lives.

Gone from the world of living.

Rocky and Roar thought about Grandpa's wish for some time. "Well, maybe we could make our own wings, like attach a cloth to our arms and stabilize it to catch wind and hopefully fly up in the sky." Rocky suggested.

"No, no, no, that simply will not do, I have a better idea! Legend says that in a cave in a really tall mountain there are many protein rich lizards that will allow any creature to grow large feathers and take to the skies. Actually, let's do it this way: Do it however you want, as long as you can fly by the end of the month!" Roar exclaimed.

"Your method is really ridiculous, who would want to climb a silly mountain just to eat lizards?" Rocky mocked. "I will win."

Then after, Roar ventured to the highest mountain in her sight. Unfortunately, there were a lot of caves, but not one had a single lizard in it. She was about to give up, until she found a hidden cave at the summit of the mountain hidden by a curtain of purple wisteria. She tried her best to hunt down all the lizards in the cave, but the task was impossible for her, because the cave was gloomily dark, and she couldn't see well. In the end, her basket was filled to the brim with lizards. When she got home, she dumped out the lizards from the basket and chomped on the lizards gleefully. The lizards were the only thing she ate. She was keen to beat her brother in the competition to fly. The legend seemed to be true. She felt that little feather buds started growing on her little arms. Day by day, feathers as big as palm leaves started to pop out of her arms. The last obstacle was to train. One night, Roar was training under the moon as it gave her confidence. So she beat her wings as she looked up into the charcoal night sky with a look of determination written all over her face and soared up into the sky. She enjoyed the feeling of weightlessness in the delicate view of the dark sky. She beat her wings even harder and rocketed up higher and cried happily. Tears of joy swelled up and flowed freely.

Meanwhile, Rocky was finding ways to attach the cloth to his arms. He was getting more nervous as time went by and a month's time was almost up. Despite that, he continued to try attaching the cloth to his arms, and in the end, he succeeded. The only thing was, could he fly? Rocky went out to the lawn and flapped his 'wings', but nothing happened. He tried everyday until one day before the end of the month, he lifted a meter high up in the air. Rocky was thrilled.

When it was time for Rocky and Roar to compete, Roar decided that she would go first. So she flapped her wings, and immediately took off into the sky. When Roar landed, Rocky surrendered and said " The highest I've ever gotten is one meter off the ground. You win."

Roar passed down the method of eating those lizards, and over time, feathers became part of *Sinosauropteryx*'s DNA, and they became the birds that can fly and we can see them everywhere. Rocky, on the other hand, decided that going up the mountain was too much work so his descendants evolved into flightless birds. Sadly, the flightless birds could not thrive in an environment with so many predators. Thus, they fled to New Zealand to survive.

# To Find a Happier Life

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lu, Sophia Mingyi – 11*

What is the purpose of life? My friends told me that the essence of life is to be surrounded by those who love you. But if that's true, my purpose in life evaporated after that enormous meteorite struck. Now, the world feels hollow, empty, and lost in the void with my friends dead.

I know the purpose of my life, though. It's to be confined in this cage with the whims of a deranged scientist, displayed like a circus animal for the world to gawk at for the rest of my life.

Every time I gaze at the dinosaur bones encased in the crystal-clear glass containers, memories of my friends and family flood my mind like a relentless wave crashing against a golden shore.

Before the meteorite struck, our lands were vibrant, alive with joy.

Before the meteorite struck, everyone was still here, and life was a peaceful melody.

Before the meteorite struck, I wasn't the last *Sinosauropteryx* alive, nor the last dinosaur alive.

It all happened in a split second, like the snap of fingers or a lighting bolt cleaving a tree. One moment, I was frolicking with my friends, basking in the golden sunlight. The next, they were on the cold, hard ground, lying lifeless on the unforgiving earth.

I snapped back to reality, staring at the skeletal remains of my kin. It was awful. My thoughts were a mosquito, irritating and inescapable. It seemed like the bones were whispering, "Sundri, we're still alive!" But I knew it was just a cruel reminder from my mind of the lonely and empty future that awaited me.

There was a maniacal scientist who wants to conduct experiments on me. He treated me like I was an insect, toying with me as his prey. Did he forget that I have a life, just like him? Dinosaurs were once the rulers of the earth, and now humans took over and spread their power. How ironic is it that we, the once-powerful, are now all dead from a meteorite? Except for me. But the one fact that formed a lump in my throat is that dinosaurs were peaceful. Harmonious. While humans are just selfish and greedy.

I really loathe this place. I'd rather be dead from the meteorite than live this life.

But today, I longed for change. I yearned to roam around somewhere else, other than these bars, and break free. I wanted to escape from the malicious wrath of this scientist, once and for all. I've been trapped for twelve long years, and I had forgotten the beauty of the outside world: the lush green plants, the brilliant blue sky, the soft, fluffy white clouds and the warm sunlight blanketing the feathers on my back in a cozy glow.

Without a thought in my head, driven by desperation and determination, I lunged forward, my jagged teeth piercing and sinking into the bars.

I glanced around for the scientist. He was in the hallways, his cold grey eyes behind his glasses locked onto the clipboard in his hand, using his pen to make quick, decisive strokes on the paper. I had to be cautious—my life depended on it. I crept through the dim corridors, my sharp amber eyes watching him warily. Every step was a potential giveaway, but I tried to keep silent.

As I turned the corner, dread and fear crashed into me like a landslide. My beady eyes slowly moved up. First at that pristine lab coat, then his malevolent grin, then the slicked-back hair. Our eyes met each other, and I felt the heat of his fiery glare as he stood over me—I wasn't even as tall as his knee.

I turned away and veered in a different direction, my claws scraping against the icy tiled floor, making an eerie screeching noise. I kept running, my heart a drum, beating frantically. I kept panting as I looked back, the scientist only mere meters away. "Get back, you filthy animal!" He shouted, his rage-filled voice echoing against the walls of the narrow corridor, surrounding me with his presence.

Ahead of me loomed the escape door, tantalizingly close. The sound of thumping footsteps grew louder, thudding like an approaching storm. I pushed my entire tiny body against the door with all my might. After seconds that felt like infinity, it let out a creak and I bolted through. The heavy door slammed shut behind me, the echoes of furious screams trailing behind.

I was free.

Stepping outside for the first time, I collapsed onto the cold pavement, shivering against the biting chill. It was midnight, and the world was cloaked in the cape of darkness. When I finally woke up, I found myself in a warm, cozy home, the air infused with the sweet scent of vanilla. My heart raced like a startled rabbit, a single thought circling my mind like a vulture, "Where am I?"

I opened my eyes slowly and looked up, only to be surprised by a warm and welcoming smile of an old lady. "You poor thing, don't worry, I'll take care of you," she said gently, her voice soothing like a balm. She picked me up tenderly and set me in her soft lap. She touched my head softly, stroking my feathers, and gave me some food to eat.

She gave me the love and attention that no one ever had in years.

I could hardly believe it. A kind human? I guess I was wrong to judge them all. Maybe they weren't all monsters. A cautious smile spread across my face, a light feeling in my heart. I haven't felt like this in a long time. I finally escaped the heavy weight of life at that wretched place. This was going to be my forever home.

A realization dawned upon me, illuminating my thoughts in a new light as I curled up tighter in her lap. My friends were right all along. The purpose of life is to be surrounded by those who love you.

# The Feathered Survivor

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lu, Youcheng Patrick – 11*

In the vibrant, hazy atmosphere of the early Cretaceous period, I, a Sinosauropteryx, explored the sprawling savannahs that stretched endlessly beneath the blazing sun. As a small but fierce carnivorous dinosaur, daily life was a challenging and terrifying dance of survival. Towering above me, massive herbivorous giants moved through the landscape, their sheer size casting long shadows that darkened the enormous world, every step sounding like a mini-earthquake. Meanwhile, the larger predators prowled with predatory grace, capable of terrifyingly rampaging through our world and dismantling their prey.

Every dawn, I wake up in the heart of the vast savannah, the warm sunlight filtering through the delicate blades of grass, creating a kaleidoscope of colors and light. My feathers, a striking blend of rusty orange and creamy white, served as the perfect camouflage, allowing me to blend seamlessly into the vibrant tapestry of nature. This was essential as I set out on my morning routine, stretching my delicate limbs and taking a brisk run to shake off the lingering lethargy of sleep, the earthy aroma of the savannah filling my nostrils.

Hunting was a tiring task, especially in this dry, battered expanse where the search for food and water was a relentless pursuit. Tiny mammals scurried quickly through the underbrush, while quick-footed lizards darted around, making them resilient game. Fortunately, my sharp eyesight detected even the faintest tremor in the grass, while my agile body allowed me to pounce with lightning speed when an opportunity arose.

Yet, despite my instincts and agility, loneliness shadows my every step. My parents had left me alone long before I broke free from my shell-like egg, leaving me abandoned to navigate the dangers of this vast world alone. My siblings had hatched and started their own lives long before I emerged into this vast landscape. Now, I wandered alone, facing the traumatizing dangers and daunting challenges of survival in a realm filled with both breathtaking beauty and lurking dangers, my heart steadfast and resolute in the fight for existence.

As I set out to hunt, I saw a giant shadow loom over me. I slowly turned and saw what was a nightmare for us Sinosauropteryx: a Carcharodontosaurus! I scrambled backward and ran for my life. I ran until my eyes turned blurry and my legs were screaming in pain. I stopped, thinking I had lost the Carcharodontosaurus, and stopped to catch my breath.

I lowered my head to drink water when I heard a soft rustling noise and looked up. I saw nothing so I prepared to keep drinking. Suddenly, a group of Dromaeosauridae jumped out of the tall grass of the savannah and surrounded me! I turned around and started to run but saw the Carcharodontosaurid running up behind me.

The Dromaeosauridae slowly closed in, and my life flashed before my eyes. The Carcharodontosaurid swished its tail in hunger, and accidentally hit a few Dromaeosauridae, knocking them to the ground. The rest of the Dromaeosauridae turned their attention to the Carcharodontosaurid, their mounting tension suffocating.

A Dromaeosauridae broke out from its group and charged the Carcharodontosaurid. The Carcharodontosaurid immediately bent down and bit down on the Dromaeosauridae's head, killing it. The rest of the Dromaeosauridae attacked, and chaos broke out. Feathers flew, and blood stained the dry soil of the savannah. I used my speedy reflexes to squeeze through a group of charging Dromaeosauridae. Out of the corner of my keen eyes, I saw a

Dromaeosauridae lunge for me. I dodged him and ran as fast as my feathery, tired legs could carry me, and soon, I couldn't see anything except for the dust of the ferocious battle.

As the cacophony of the battle faded into the distance, I found myself in a thicket of dense ferns, heart pounding and body trembling. I pressed my back against a sturdy tree trunk, the rough bark grounding me in the present moment. The sun slowly began its slow crawl to disappear out of the horizon, casting long shadows that danced upon the ground, reminding me of the precariousness of life in this harsh world. In that quiet sanctuary, I took a deep breath, feeling the adrenaline slowly subside. The chaos of the savannah had taught me a valuable lesson—not only about the dangers lurking within my environment but also about my resilience. In the face of predators and peril, I had not just survived—I had outsmarted the impossible odds. As I ventured cautiously back into the open, a soft rustle caught my attention. My heart raced again, but I quickly steadied myself.

Emerging from the bush was another Sinosauropteryx, smaller yet blindingly vibrant, mirroring my colors. His feathers twitch energetically. She looked at me with wide, curious eyes, and a spark of connection ignited between us at that moment. Together, we ventured into the fading light of the day, and for the first time, I felt the warmth of companionship. Sharing my journey with someone else offered a newfound strength, a reminder that survival did not have to be a solitary path. As we roamed through the vast savannah, hunting and exploring side by side, the world felt less daunting, and I understood that even in the most ferocious of landscapes, friendship could flourish amidst the struggle.

With every dawn that followed, we grew stronger as a team, learning from each other's instincts and cleverness. No longer just a solitary Sinosauropteryx, I had found a friend in this untamed adventure, ready to live my life in this wild world, with my newfound friend, together facing whatever challenges lay ahead.

# Exploring the Confuciusornis

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lui, Ashley Jolif – 11*

It was a beautiful morning and the smiling sun was shining down on the two figures walking down the street. Melli and Jayden Chen were on their way to the Historical Chinese Dinosaur Museum.

“Ugh, these glaring sun rays are killing me! I feel like I’m about to melt!” Melli complained. She was in a very grumpy mood as Jayden dragged his sister along with him to the museum.

“Stop being such a summer grinch, Mel! It’ll be cooler once we get inside the museum,” Jayden joked as the museum slowly came into view.

As soon as they stepped in, a tour guide appeared suddenly and offered them a tour.

Jayden’s eyes widened with excitement as the tour guide led them through room after room, showcasing amazing discoveries. They learned about the strength of the Tyrannosaurus rex, the habitat of the Pterodactyl, and much more. In contrast, Melli was incredibly bored and groaned exaggeratedly each time the tour guide introduced another room.

Finally, the tour ended at a dinosaur exploring activity center. Jayden cheered excitedly for the activity as Melli rolled her eyes.

“Jay, how are you always so excited about these dumb dinosaurs? They are just dumb creatures with ugly appearances! And the activity?! Ugh, they are just as dumb and weird as those creatures!”

“Stop being so disrespectful! The creatures now have evolved from dinosaurs ages of millennia ago! Show some respect!”

As the two continued arguing, the tour guide had just finished his presentation about the exotic creature called the Confuciusornis and clapped his hands to get everyone’s attention as a flurry of activity began.

“Hello? Can I have your attention, please? Thank you! As many of you may know, today marks the opening of our museum, and we are celebrating with a special activity! Each participant will work in pairs to find information about the habitat and appearance of the Confuciusornis. You will have 30 minutes to search for this information and take notes. At the end of the 30 minutes, each pair will come on stage to present their findings. The pair with the most detailed and well-organized notes will win a prize! Please note that any pair who does not finish on time will be disqualified!” the tour guide announced excitedly.

The arguing siblings stopped abruptly and cocked their heads surprisedly as their eyes shone with excitement.

“Did you hear that? The pair with the most descriptive and best notes will receive a prize!” Melli smiled competitively. “I’ll do the writing and drawing for the notes! You do the research!”

Jayden groaned with despair as he started searching the room for the habitat of the Confuciusornis as Melli scrambled after him.

After a long search, they finally found the habitat facts. Jayden smiled happily as he saw the beautiful picture of nature.

“Now, the habitat of the Confuciusornis is in the temperate forests of what is now northeastern China,” Jayden said with happiness. Melli quickly grabbed a pencil from her clipboard and started jotting down notes, eager not to miss any important details.

“Come on, Jay! We need to finish the other column on the worksheet before time runs out!” Melli urged, pulling at his arm.

Jayden soon found the room with the appearance of the Confuciusornis. His eyes twinkled with excitement as he approached the picture of the Confuciusornis.

“The Confuciusornis is a beautiful and majestic basal crow-sized avialian with beautiful feathery wings, a sharp beak, and a special tail that splits into two thin strands with pod-like tips at the end! Isn’t it cool?” Jayden exclaimed.

Suddenly, a loud gong rang through the museum, signaling that the activity had ended and all participants had to return to the dinosaur discovering activity center.

“Okay, participants! It is time for you to showcase the notes you have taken and the drawings you all drew!” the excited tour guide announced when all the participants had gathered around.

One by one, the participants presented their work. When it was Melli and Jayden's turn, Jayden wowed the judges with his dinosaur knowledge, while Melli impressed them with her elegant handwriting and drawing. The judges beamed with smiles, and the siblings received a huge round of applause. As they returned to their seats, the tour guide began announcing the winning pair.

“Boys and girls! We have seen many beautiful works and surprising presentations but the best presentation and notes taken pair is from Melli and Jayden! Melli and Jayden, please come on stage to receive your prize!” the tour guide announced with a flourish.

Big smiles stretched across the siblings' faces as they rushed on stage. The tour guide presented them the prizes, which were dinosaur stickers and a fun fact notebook about dinosaurs.

Jayden bit back his laughter as he saw the absolute horror plastered across Melli's face when she realized what the gift was. But she forced a smile anyway, even though her eyes had darkened with disappointment.

As soon as they left the stage, Melli threw the prizes at Jayden, her voice clear with disgust.

“I can't believe it! I thought they would give us a trophy, or a medal, or at least a certificate! But no, instead, they gave us these disgusting notebooks and stickers about these dumb creatures! Ugh, I'm going to be sick!” Melli fumed as she stomped out the museum doors.

Jayden laughed heartily, realizing that no matter how hard he tried, Melli Chen would never learn to like dinosaurs or understand that they were the stars of this world.



# Chinese Dinosaurs: A Beacon of Hope

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Lye, Yutong – 10*

*66 million years ago, in what is now Liaoning, China*

The thundering roars and ground-shaking tremors woke me up one early morning. As I blinked against the dim light, my heart sank to my stomach immediately to see our once beautiful home destroyed. Ash fell from the sky like snow, blanketing the ground in a thick layer. Dust and smoke filled the air with a heavy scent of burnt and bitter pollution, stinging my nostrils. The sun barely shone through the dense clouds of smoke. The crystal-clear streams ran dry, leaving cracked marks.

Mamenchisaurus, my friend, was in great pain as fiery rocks relentlessly rained down from the sky—his long neck made it difficult to dodge. Above him, Jeholornis, a large avian with a long tail, zoomed across the sky to seek refuge.

The place was filled with chaos and growls of fear. The ground trembled beneath my three-toed feet. I froze in panic, only my heart raced.

The horizon darkened, and the aerial attack eventually stopped. How I ended up where I was, I had no idea. I lost track of day and night. The initial heat turned to frost as the greens mysteriously disappeared. Food was so scarce that I could only scavenge carcasses. As the days passed, I watched helplessly as my feathered family died from starvation and dehydration, one after another.

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*2071 AD, International Conference of Paleontology, Nanjing*

“Ladies and gentlemen, Chinese paleontology has come a long way and made many critical discoveries,” Professor Li Yuan, the keynote speaker, began, adjusting his glasses as he looked down at his cue cards.

“From the Weng’an biota in Guizhou containing marine life dating 600 million years old, to the Jurassic Yanliao biota and Cretaceous Jehol biota dating 120 to 160 million years old, the fossils of these well-preserved ecosystems have astonished my fellow scientists and brought significant advancements to our understanding of ancient life.”

“Today, I present my findings on the origin of modern-day birds,” Professor Li pointed the clicker to the screen, displaying the drawing of a Yutyrannus with brightly-coloured feathers, a Cretaceous period tyrannosaurus from what is now northeastern China.

Before he could carry on, Professor Li felt a hard hit on his head. He pressed his hands against his forehead. It was a shoe thrown by someone in the audience, sending Li’s glasses flying a few metres away. Still disoriented, Professor Li picked up his glasses and saw a lad in his twenties, in T-shirt and shorts, grappling to get up on stage, but held back by two security guards.

Professor Li recognized him, Cheung, the leader of an extremist activist group which had emerged in recent years, trying to steer resources away from scientific research that they perceived as non-critical.

“What you’re doing is useless!” Cheung screamed hysterically. “The asteroid will strike earth in fifty years. You are making humanity go extinct!”

“We have the chance to learn from the past, to adapt and evolve just like they did.” Professor Li leaned forward to explain, with hope in his eyes.

“You don’t understand!” Cheung tried to break free from the guards. “Humanity will suffer and die, all because of what you are wasting our time on!”

“Please... please...” Professor Li’s voice faded away as a tear trickled down his cheeks. “Listen to me, please.”

Cheung grew tired of struggling. Professor Li continued, “What does extinction even mean? Look, these creatures, they are still around us.”

“If dinosaurs can adapt and evolve, so can we!”

The room fell silent, as silent as a mouse. The only ruffle came from a student in the audience holding up his phone, capturing a video clip of this pivotal moment.

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*66 million years ago*

Starvation. My colorful feathers had nearly all fallen off. I used to run long stretches in search of prey but now...lethargic. My sharp teeth had become useless.

“Gggggr...gggggr!” Just then, I heard a low rumble that echoed through the empty fields. “Never give up,” my leader called out. It was my herd; they found food!

I opened my eyes and stood up slowly, assisted by my slender arms, refusing to let these harsh days defeat me. I rejoined the herd, encouraged by my newfound optimism.

I fed on much smaller creatures that survived. I learned to adapt to this new environment, moving around less to save energy and water, consuming anything I could find, including what I used to hate eating. Every day was a challenge, and surviving was the only thing that mattered. No matter how many challenges I face, I will always live on.

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## ***2071 AD***

“If dinosaurs can adapt and evolve, so can we!”

Professor Li’s quote was so widely shared on Tiktok and Instagram that they turned into memes. Depictions of Chinese dinosaurs: the massive Yutyrannus, the agile Jeholornis, the cute Chinese Microraptor, etc. all became worldwide phenomena, appearing in movies, pop songs, on billboards, and printed on apparel and mugs. Chinese dinosaurs—the hottest cultural icon, everyone simply could not get enough of them.

The world had turned into a much gloomier place ever since the incoming asteroid with the potential to cause mass extinction became news a few years ago. Many people stopped working and children stopped going to school, believing the prediction that humanity would be wiped out in fifty years. The arrival of the Chinese dinosaur movement could not have been more timely, an instant reversal of the dark sentiments!

Yutyrannus was named the 2071 “Person of the Year” by *Time* magazine. *People’s Daily of China* and *The New York Times* both carried the opinion piece: “Chinese Dinosaurs: A Beacon of Hope for Humanity.”

What does the future hold? What else can we learn from these amazing creatures?

# A Dinosaur's Small Act of Kindness

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Reeve, Astral – 11*

“There has been some speculation, but the rumor is true, I met Chungkingosaurus myself,” T–rex said.

Croc sat with him listening. They rested near the swamp. Just a normal day – nothing out of place. The water was the same murky blue. The trees all tall and drooping. Even the one knot in the nearest tree trunk that Croc had known for the whole of his life sat there, unmoving.

“I don’t see why we always need to meet here,” T–rex rambled on, “crocodiles have no taste.”

“*Because*” Croc grumbled, “Your friends would freak out if they knew the great Tyrannosaurus was friends with the common crocodile next door.”

“At least come with me to see Chungking!” T–rex begged, “I will honour you, almighty Croc!”

“Wow. You’re really desperate,” Croc laughed. The mighty T–rex needed his consent. He played along. “Very well common dinosaur. I accept your request.”

“Yeah! To see him!” Croc’s other friend Titanosaurus appeared behind him. Not really his friend. More like a small insignificant being in the background. He wasn’t really a bother as he mostly nibbled on decayed tree roots. But Titan was reliable, and he was sometimes fun – *sometimes*.

“Ok,” T–rex smiled, “us three, near Black Sand Beach tomorrow!”

Black Sand Beach.

It wasn’t pretty, but it had the right name. The sooty grains were as black as the night and clung uncomfortably to Croc’s feet and tail. He usually stayed away from here. The other animals too. Whispers in the trees and rustling in the bushes were sometimes conversations on how the black sand was bad luck, and anyone who stepped on it was cursed. Croc didn’t believe them, but he also usually stayed away.

Finally, Titan and T–rex showed up. Croc and Titan followed T–rex into a small cavern. Moss and vines covered the walls, ceiling, and floor, making T–rex and Titan slip with every step. Croc cracked up. Soon, T–rex called out, and a dinosaur melted out of the darkest part of the cavern.

He was small and, instead of T–rex’s upright and muscular build, looked more lizard-like – flatter to the ground. His back was also covered in scales, but these were more like long spikes protruding from his back. Although he looked tinier than the other dinosaurs in the room, and he didn’t quite scream authority, he still gave off a feeling of strength in a small subtle way. His claws tingled with power and possibly even magic. Croc then knew this had to be Chungkingosaurus.

He gave them a small smile, “Come to show your friends the prophecy eh, Big T?”

T–rex nodded, and Chungking started to recite a small poem, a haiku, Croc realized.

“Soon, a new species,  
They will come and take over,  
But first we must die.”

“Well, that’s not very reassuring,” Croc frowned but was soon cut off by a second haiku verse.

“They are called humans,  
Very small yet very fierce,  
But they don’t kill us.”

Titan frowned too, “Then what kills–” but he was also cut off.

“The murderer comes,  
In the form of a comet,  
Striking us all down.”

“Is that all?” Croc said quickly, not wanting to be cut off again.  
Silence.

Chungking nodded and shrunk back into the shadows.

Croc blinked and stared. Swell. Nothing about that was reassuring. Why had T-rex brought them there?

T-rex turned to Croc. "Is the prophecy true or not? Most of these dinosaurs have heard Chungking's prophecy, but not many believe his words. They do not believe his gift of foreseeing the future is true at all. So much so, that fights have broken out."

Croc gasped. "If we all start fighting, we'll end up killing each other before the prophecy comet finally arrives!"

"No," Chungking came out of the shadows again, his face serious, the kind that meant you weren't kidding, the kind that meant the prophecy *was* true, "I can sense the comet. At the latest, it will arrive tomorrow night, but probably earlier."

That night Croc shivered in his bed of mud and roots, expecting the heat of fire or explosions. Everything felt heavier tonight, or maybe it was his heart. Suddenly, he heard T-rex's voice. "Croc?"

Immediately, Croc looked up. T-rex smiled. "I can't sleep. You?"

"No," Croc sighed, "what are you doing here?"

T-rex smiled again, "You're my best friend. If the world was ending, I'd wanna be next to you. We could die with a smile, together. Speaking of that, Chungking also foresaw that it was gonna be a line from some human song. Lady Gaba and...Bruno Stars? I don't know, but it seems appropriate, given what's going to happen."

Croc smiled too. T-rex cared for him. Said Croc was his best friend. He was actually loved. Not by his mom, who'd abandoned him when he was little, not the other crocodiles, who had also deserted him as a runt. But by T-rex. A dinosaur. T-rex then hugged him. He was starting to get teary eyed. Suddenly, a flashback started in the back of his mind.

He was about 2 or 3, playing by himself near Black Sand Beach when two older Crocodiles came up to him. "Where's your mother?"

Croc stared, "M-mother?"

One of the older crocodiles frowned, "The person who loves and cares for you sweetie."

Croc continued staring, "Love?"

The second older one told the first, "Don't bother, he's a runt."

He forgot what happened after that. Maybe they just walked away. Like every other crocodile.

Back to the present, suddenly, an earth-shattering boom sounded. The comet had struck. Creatures all over the land started dying. Dropping dead as fast as rain falling from the sky.

They were scared.

They were crying.

Screaming.

Flailing.

Except for two friends. Hugging each other in a small swamp. Fire swept over them but in Croc's head, they were still hugging each other. Maybe it was his consciousness, telling him they were still alive, but the small scene played over and over.

Hugging each other.

Forever and ever.

# Jiang Yan's Secret Friend

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Shen, Rayna Indigo – 10*

In the remote forest of the Yunnan province, Jiang Yan and her dad set out for their daily hunt. It was a quiet day, and they were not having any luck, so they decided to walk deeper into the forest than usual.

After walking for what felt like hours, Jiang Yan caught a flash of an animal. “Is that a boar?!” she thought to herself excitedly and rushed after it. But as Jiang Yan sped down the path after the frightened boar, Jiang Yan tripped and tumbled uncontrollably down an unknown gorge and landed on a pile of leaves and came to stand in front of a gigantic purple oval shaped body covered with dots. “Is... this an... egg?” muttered the dumbfounded Jiang Yan.

Suddenly Jiang Yan sensed an enormous shadow behind her but before she could turn around, the creature flew in front of her in a blink of an eye and was trying to take flight with the egg but failed. As Jiang Yan tiptoed closer to the being, she observed that it was a gigantic, dark red bird with pink dots on it. It had a pair of sharp front teeth, a thick slimy tail and a head the size of a wheel. “What are you?” the frightened Jiang Yan found herself asking. “I am a pterodactyl,” said the huge bird unexpectedly. Jiang Yan could not believe her ears. “So not only are you a dinosaur, but you can also speak?! I thought you only exist in legends!” exclaimed the amazed Jiang Yan. “Yes, we pterodactyls are the guardians of Jinsha (Gold Sand) river since the Han dynasty. For thousands of years, we protect the local people from river floods. We derive our powers of invisibility and speech from the river. However, as you humans drain the Jinsha river in search of gold, we have over time completely lost our power of invisibility and been hunted by the Qian hunters to the point of extinction. I am sadly the last pterodactyl left in China, and I am too weak to hunt for food after giving birth to my egg. In fact, I have not eaten for days.” The pterodactyl explained with pain in her voice.

Jiang Yan eagerly offered to help the pterodactyl. After finding Jiang Yan, Jiang Yan's dad, too was shocked by the sight of the Chinese dinosaur. After getting over the shock, he also wanted to help. So, for the next few weeks, the kind-hearted pair hunted extra hard to scavenge food to secretly give to the pterodactyl. With their help, the pterodactyl recovered some strength and was able to fly again.

However, Jiang Yan's secret did not last for long. Jiang Yan's stepmother, realizing that the food Jiang Yan and her dad brought home from the hunts was getting less and less, even though they were spending longer and longer in their daily hunts. Suspicious, she stealthily followed the hunting pair when they set off to the forest and found out their shocking secret.

“You have been keeping this discovery a secret from me?! Do you not realize how much gold we can get from the Qian hunters if we were to share this information with them?” Jiang Yan's stepmother confronted the pair once they were home. “To think the life I could enjoy with this wealth. A big house, servants, silk gowns, and countless jewellery,” cackled the stepmother. “I am going to the Qian hunters right now!” Jiang Yan and her dad begged their hardest for her to change her mind, but she would not budge. She was completely overcome with greed.

Crying, Jiang Yan ran out of the house. She ran and ran all the way to the gorge where the pterodactyl lived and helplessly told the pterodactyl about the danger to come. “I am so sorry, please forgive me. I didn't know this would happen. I thought we were careful. What can I do?” cried Jiang Yan in total panic. Surprisingly, the pterodactyl just gave her a soft but sad smile. “Jiang Yan, it is okay. You and your dad have already helped me quite a lot in the past few weeks. I am old and tired of being alone. I miss my family and now I am going to meet them. You have been a big help and accompanied me in the last moments of my life, and I am very grateful for that. I know from the moment that we met that you are a girl of pure heart, and I trust you to take care of my baby whom I deeply love.” With tears in its eyes the pterodactyl whispered, “The last thing I can do as a mom is to keep the Qian hunters away from you two.” With that the pterodactyl rolled the warm egg into Jiang Yan's hands and flew towards the army of hunters who were approaching fast.

From a distance, Jiang Yan saw her flying friend screech, struggle and fell to the ground. She could hear the faint cheers of the hunters. Jiang Yan slumped onto the floor holding the egg tightly. "I didn't even know your mother's name." Jiang Yan muttered to the egg with tears rolling down her face.

Years later, the baby pterodactyl had grown up well and was named Sacrifice in honour of her mother. Jiang Yan's stepmom had left Jiang Yan's dad and moved to another village after becoming rich which was a blessing for all as she was mean and cruel to Jiang Yan and her dad. Baby Sacrifice's existence was also safe. So, in the end, everyone was happy but work was not done. With the help of the villagers, Jiang Yan and her dad gradually restore the water level of the Jinsha river. And if you go visit the gorge today, maybe, just maybe, you would be lucky enough to see Sacrifice playing with Jiang Yan.

# Echoes of the Cretaceous

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Sun, Joseph – 12*

The sun hung high over the dig site in Zhu Cheng, where paleontologists had spent countless hours unearthing the secrets of a bygone era. Dr. Sun, the lead paleontologist, brushed away the layers of dirt with careful precision.

“Look at this!” Dr. Sun exclaimed, her eyes sparkling with excitement. Her colleagues, Ali Ang and Kai Ye, crowded around her, intrigued by her discovery. It was a distinct stone tablet buried under piles of dirt, with mysterious inscriptions engraved onto it.

“What do you think it means?” Ali asked, tracing a finger along the carvings.

Kai, who had been scribbling away on a notepad, squinted at the symbols.

“It looks like some kind of map, but I’ve never seen anything like it. It’s not from any known civilization. Maybe an ancient language?”

Dr. Sun examined the tablet thoroughly again. “Wait. Look here! Isn’t that the Zhuchengtyrannus discovered in 2011? But why is it carved onto some random stone tablet?”

As they studied the tablet, a sudden tremor shook the ground beneath them, causing the trio to stumble. The air thickened with an inexplicable energy as the tablet began to glow faintly. This was no ordinary artifact. The inscriptions seemed to pulse with life, and before they could react, a swirling vortex opened up around them. In an instant, they were engulfed by light and sound, their surroundings dissolving into chaos as they were transported back in time to the Late Cretaceous period, where colossal dinosaurs roamed and danger lurked at every turn.

The moment Dr. Sun opened her eyes, an unsettling feel washed over her. It was as if every corner had been filled with creatures, all waiting for the moment to strike. This wasn’t good. She frantically turned her head, looking for Kai and Ali, but there were no traces of them being here. Also, the stone tablet she was holding before they came here was gone. At that moment, one thought circled in her head: *If the stone tablet took us here, then the stone tablet must take us back.*

Only problem, where was the stone tablet? As Dr. Sun fought to regain her bearings, the dense foliage around her shifted with the sounds of unseen creatures. She staggered forward, the ground beneath her still trembling from the recent tremor. Panic surged through her; she had to find the stone tablet and hopefully, Kai and Ali.

After what felt like an eternity of stumbling through the thick underbrush, she spotted a dark cave mouth in the distance. The entrance was partially obscured by hanging vines and ferns, a faint glow illuminating from inside the cave.

“Could it be?” she whispered, hope flaring in her chest.

She approached cautiously, her instincts screaming at her to turn back. As she neared the cave, the faint glow intensified, illuminating strange markings on the walls. Dr. Sun's heart raced; these symbols resembled those on the tablet.

Suddenly, a low growl echoed from within the cave, sending chills down her spine. She froze. The sound reverberated, growing louder and more menacing.

Peering into the darkness, she caught a glimpse of something massive moving within. The Zhuchengtyrannus emerged, its powerful silhouette framed by the cave's entrance. Its muscles rippled beneath its scaly skin, and its eyes locked onto her with an intensity that made her breath hitch.

Dr. Sun's mind raced. The creature was notorious for its ferocity. She needed a plan, but the thought of being so close to such a titan paralyzed her with fear.

She scanned the cave entrance for anything that could help her. The glowing markings seemed to pulse with energy, and she felt an inexplicable connection to them. "This must be the place," she thought. "The tablet has to be here."

As the Zhuchengtyrannus stepped forward, its massive jaws opened, revealing rows of sharp teeth. It was guarding something, and she suspected it was the stone tablet. With no time to lose, Dr. Sun took a deep breath and summoned her courage.

"Think, think!" she muttered under her breath. "Distraction!"

She quickly grabbed a loose stone from the ground and hurled it into the cave, hoping to divert the creature's attention. The stone clattered against the cave wall, and the primeval titan turned, its instinct to investigate kicking in.

Seizing the moment, Dr. Sun slipped into the cave, her heart pounding in her ears. The interior was dimly lit, filled with shadows that danced along the walls.

As she ventured deeper, the glow of the stone tablet became unmistakable. It lay on a raised stone pedestal at the back of the cave, surrounded by ancient carvings and crystals that reflected the light like stars.

But the Zhuchengtyrannus was close behind, its growls echoing, now filled with confusion and rage. Dr. Sun rushed to the tablet, her fingers brushing over the inscriptions, desperately trying to remember the sequence that had activated it before.

"Please, come on!" she urged the tablet, her heart racing as she sensed the creature closing in.

The Zhuchengtyrannus entered the cave, its eyes narrowing as it spotted her. It charged forward, and Dr. Sun felt a surge of adrenaline. She pressed on the first symbol, praying it would work.

As the tablet responded with a blinding light, the cave trembled. The Zhuchengtyrannus roared in frustration, its massive body halting just as the light enveloped Dr. Sun.

"Take me back!" she shouted, feeling the energy pulse around her.

All of a sudden, she was back at the campsite, Ali and Kai encircling her.

Breathless, Dr. Sun clutched the tablet, feeling its warmth against her palm. "You won't believe what just happened," she gasped, looking at her friends. "We were in the Late Cretaceous! The Zhuchengtyrannus was guarding the tablet!"



Kai's eyes sparkled with curiosity. "So, it's true? The tablet is a time portal?"

Dr. Sun nodded, her mind racing with the possibilities. "We need to study this further. There's so much more to uncover."

As they gathered around her, the echoes of the Cretaceous lingered in her mind, reminding her that the adventure was only just beginning.

## A Calling from Htrae to Earth

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Wan, Isabelle – 11*

“Ugh, how much longer must we endure this torture?” Hanuo proclaimed, as she and her best friend, Yinru, were walking down the wide-open hallways of the South-Bay China Museum of Ancient Bones. They had been two of the “lucky” few invited to a special tour showcasing latest discoveries that China had made, but neither of them were interested in anything even remotely related to dinosaurs.

*Sigh* “If only we could travel to a parallel universe where dinosaurs were still alive and they could answer all our questions, our project will be done in no time!” Yinru complained and rolled her eyes so far back it took a moment to adjust them.

As the two reluctantly trudged through the museum, Yinru spotted a bronze statue on display of a lady posing in a khaki outfit. The plaque underneath said “Guardian of the Lost World: Dr. Ma”.

As Hanuo and the statue locked eyes, the ground rumbled and shook. The world spun in a chaotic blur, and then—pure darkness. They were swallowed into the ground.

When they awoke, they were in a lush, green field under a golden sun. Beyond that, vibrant marshes and swamps blossomed with lotus flowers and water lilies. Dragonflies darted above shimmering pools, while frogs croaked in a serene chorus.

Suddenly, a jarring sound pierced the tranquillity—the noise sent a rush of adrenaline through them. They exchanged startled glances, curiosity quickly overcoming their fear.

“What do you think that was?” Yinru asked, her heart racing.

Hanuo, equally intrigued, replied, “We should check it out!”

They stood up, but the sight before them froze them in their tracks. A herd of omnivorous dinosaurs grazed peacefully, their massive forms silhouetted against the fading light.

Hanuo’s eyes widened in horror as she caught sight of a dinosaur, its long neck stretching high to reach the treetops. Nearby, a pair of young dinosaurs darted playfully, their sharp claws shining ominously.

Surrounded by prehistoric giants, Hanuo and Yinru realized they had stumbled into a parallel universe—a world where dinosaurs still roamed.

A low tremor ran beneath Hanuo and Yinru’s feet and when they looked up from their hiding spot, a graceful figure emerged from behind the banyan tree, her khaki outfit gleaming faintly in the twilight. With a wave of her lean arms, the dinosaurs immediately relaxed, their postures shifting from aggression to curiosity.

“I didn’t expect to see humans here with me too” the lady announced, her voice both powerful and soothing. “I am Ma Xiaoya, a palaeontologist. How did you girls get here?”

“Excuse me, but why are there dinosaurs right in front of us? Aren’t they extinct?” Hanuo asked.

“I can travel back in time. I went to the era of the meteorite impact and rescued a few dinosaurs in need. I’ve been caring for them and their offspring ever since here in Htrae,” she explained.

Ma gestured toward the dinosaurs, and the two girls looked at them in awe. “This gentle being is a “Lufengosaurus”, I call him Fenglu.” Hanuo noticed that despite his small size, he still has a long neck and tail. “Over

here is my Huayangosaurus, Yanghua. Isn't she cute?" Yinru saw that she has a robust body, and her tail was equipped with spikes.

"Over here is Chungkingosaurus, or Chung, my favourite herbivore." Hanuo realized it had bony armour and a broad, flat skull. She thought they would make great shields against bullets, but that was a thought for another day.

"Finally, this is the Datousaurus, Touda, the tallest of my pack." Yinru found that its pillar-like legs allowed it to move around very efficiently.

"Also...these dinosaurs REALLY enjoy eating herbs and berries wrapped in lotus leaves, just like the modern Nuòmǐjī. I feed that to them during training." Ma stated.

As Hanuo and Yinru took notes on the dinosaurs, it dawned on them that they needed to find a way back home.

"Hanuo, how are we going to get out of here?" she asked, concern evident in her voice.

Ma looked at them and smiled warmly. "Don't you worry! I can help you return to Earth."

She raised her hands, and a soft, shimmering light began to swirl around them, forming the distinct shape of a yin-yang symbol. "In Htrae, our way of getting around is rooted in the ancient balance of yin and yang," she explained, her voice calm and steady. "It's the harmony of opposing forces that guides us."

She gestured toward a bright oval in front of them, revealing the inside of the museum. Hanuo and Yinru exchanged glances.

"Let's go!" Hanuo exclaimed.

Unexpectedly, Yanghua stepped up to them, and whispered, "I need to ask you girls for a favour. I have a turtle back on earth that didn't make it through the portal. She lives in my hometown Liaoning. Could you bring her back?"

The girls followed behind Ma as she led the way – "Until we meet again!"

Hanuo and Yinru arrived at school the next day, still buzzing with excitement over their incredible adventure in Htrae. As they entered, Ms. Chen was rambling on about major palaeontology figures, naming Dr. Dong and Dr. Richard Owen, praising their groundbreaking contributions to the field, Hanuo and Yinru exchanged frustrated glances.

"What about female palaeontologists? Like Ma Xiaoya?" Yinru raised her hand and asked.

Ms. Chen smiled. "Great point! Ma has made many important contributions, especially as part of the first group to report neural tissue, which rarely survives fossilization, and discovering nervous structures in some of the oldest fossils from the Chengjiang Biota, a World Heritage Site in China."

Encouraged by her enthusiasm, Ms. Chen invited the class to research more about female palaeontologists.

Hanuo and Yinru exchanged smiles. They knew exactly where to focus for their ongoing research. They hoped to continue inspiring their classmates to think more inclusively about science through their future adventures.

One year later...

"Yes! We got your turtle! Htrae, we are coming back to deliver an old friend!"...

# Hope's Journey

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Wujanto, Emma – 10*

Dinosaurs roamed the earth.

A part of them, Confuciusornis.

Some played, others battled. Some ate, others slept. And one, all alone, quietly watched them all.

This young Confuciusornis had a coat of chestnut brown feathers, a stout beak, vast wings, and a tuft of red feathers nestled on the crown of her delicate head. She dreamed of playing with friends, battling enemies, eating whatever she wanted, and snuggling with her beloved family. But no one let her. She didn't even have a name – no one cared enough to name her. So, she named herself Hope, as she valued it very much.

Once she tried asking her brother, "Can I please play with you?"

"No way! You're so heavy you can't even fly properly!" he scoffed.

Hope was indeed oversized. Even though it made flying harder, that didn't stop her from trying harder. Since she wasn't allowed to do anything with anyone, Hope spent most of her time watching how other animals flew. She wanted to learn the techniques of every flying creature.

One day, when Hope was trying to mimic the flying of a crane for the twentieth time, she suddenly fell to the ground in exhaustion. "I can't do it!" She whined. Her face was pale and she was panting desperately.

Just then, a cryptic voice encouraged her, "Have hope."

This tiny voice motivated the dinosaur. She took a deep breath and tried again.

It was a cool, breezy morning and all the Confuciusornis were getting ready for a migration. All except one – Hope. Hope had been waiting for this day her whole life, and she wasn't even allowed to go!

She pleaded one last time, and even demonstrated her amazing flying techniques. But her parents just laughed hysterically and sneered, "We don't allow any ducks in our flock!"

Hope hated being teased by her own parents the most. Oh, how she wished somebody would be kind enough to care for her! She didn't know why they treated her differently, but it had always been that way. She sadly watched the rest of her family, all laughing and chatting happily. Hope sighed as a tear ran down her beak.

A plump, black centipede crawled out of the bushes. Hope raised her claw in frustration, ready to squash it flat, but paused mid-air as the little centipede began to speak mysteriously. "Don't let those hard-hearted dinosaurs get to you. Follow your dreams. Have hope."

Hope put down her claw and a gentle smile spread across her face. With that, she spread her large, feathery wings and flew. She closed her eyes. The strong wind pressed against her wrinkled face. It drummed in her earholes. Her feathers shivered. Her feet trembled. It was all awesome.

"Have hope," she told herself, "Just have hope."

"Oof!" Hope exclaimed. She had fallen into a tree. She opened her eyes, and blinked. The tuft of red feathers on her head seemed redder than usual. She lay sprawled on the ground, and looked around. She looked left, then right. She looked right, then left.

It was all forest.

Just forest.

She was lost.

The baby dinosaur sat straight up, scared and worried. What if she never got back home? What if she got eaten by other animals? What could she do? There was nothing she could do. She did not recognise anything around her.

All except a centipede. Once again, it spoke, “Remember, have hope. Don’t give up!”

Hope was astonished by the sight of the centipede. She kneeled down and whispered, “Who are you?” But it was already gone.

In search for food, Hope took off slowly. She felt anxious, and her heart beat so hard it made her chest hurt. Hours passed by, until she reached a lush wetland full of cranes drinking from the water. They were a good five times larger than her, but she felt somehow related to them. They both had broad wings, wiry legs and an air of graceful freedom. Hope flew towards one and gently asked, “May I please drink some of your water?” The crane flicked him away with a wing.

Hope looked around and noticed a powerful-looking crane gesturing for him to come. The crane proudly explained, “I’m Xin, and I lead the flock every year for our migration. Where do you come from? Drink some water, you look very thirsty.”

Hope gratefully accepted the water and nervously introduced herself. She told Xin about life with the other Confuciusornis, and how she learnt to fly. Xin was amazed by her story. They talked on and on about their lives and soon became extremely fond of each other.

Finally, after much hesitation, Xin asked softly, “Would you like to lead the flock with me for our migration next week? I know you would love to lead a flock, and with a little more practice, I think you’d do great!”

Hope’s face lit up. Her eyes filled with wonder. “You’d really let me do it?” she breathed.

“Of course! We will do it together, and I can help you,” assured Xin.

Hope couldn’t believe what she had just heard. She exclaimed, “I’d love to! Thank you so much!”

Xin and Hope spent the next seven days practising. That week passed in the blink of an eye, and by the end of it, they were both buzzing with excitement and brimming with confidence. The other cranes, however, were not.

“Xin! Why are you letting her lead? She’s not even a crane!” one complained.

“What if she gets us lost?” whined another.

The two friends smiled reassuringly and said, “Just have hope. We can do it!”

Months later, as the ducks paddled in the Li river, slender trees swayed along the riverbank, and the early morning mist settled among the mountains behind, a flock of cranes flew past in a perfect v-shape. Leading the formation was a rather unusual pair – an old crane and a young Confuciusornis.

# Saving the Dinosaurs

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Yue, Walton – 11*

Ryan Montgomery was no ordinary archaeologist. Renowned for his experience with studying dinosaurs, he had spent a long time discovering fossils and revealing secrets from the past. However, Dr. Montgomery still dreamt of one thing – to witness dinosaurs in their natural habitat. Driven by this desire, he dedicated years to inventing a time machine to go back in time. Finally, his persistence paid off.

Dr. Montgomery's heart raced as he activated the time machine. In an instant, he was transported millions of years into the past. Stepping out, he found himself in a vibrant, prehistoric world full of energy. The air was thick with the scent of ancient plants, and dinosaurs roamed freely – the majestic Microraptors, herds of Saichinias munching contentedly on the green grass, and a fearsome Shantungosaurus in the distance. It was an amazing sight. As he marvelled at the world around him, he noticed a mysterious mist spreading across the valley. Curious, Dr. Montgomery decided to investigate. Navigating through lush vegetation, he stumbled upon a young Tanius named Slatetooth. "Hey there, little buddy, what's your name?" Dr. Montgomery said. "Hello, human. I'm Slatetooth. Are you lost?" the young dinosaur replied. "You can talk?" Dr. Montgomery was stunned. "Of course I can. Why wouldn't I?" Slatetooth responded with a mischievous grin. They quickly formed a bond, and Slatetooth agreed to accompany him on his quest to uncover the mist's source.

Their journey was filled with challenges. At a fast-flowing river, Slatetooth suggested using a fallen tree as a bridge. "Good thinking, Slatetooth!" As they crossed, a Guanlong appeared from the shadows. "Stay close to me, Slatetooth," Dr. Montgomery whispered. The Guanlong began to stalk them. Dr. Montgomery grabbed a large branch, and Slatetooth tried to scare the Guanlong. The predator lunged, but Dr. Montgomery struck it on the snout with the branch. The Guanlong circled them, searching for an opening to attack. Dr. Montgomery noticed a large boulder nearby and whispered his plan to Slatetooth. "On the count of three, I'll distract it, then you push it into the boulder." Dr. Montgomery dashed towards the boulder, drawing the Guanlong's attention. It lunged at him, crashing into the boulder. Then Slatetooth charged, delivering a powerful shove, and the predator fell, dazed. They sprinted away.

Continuing their journey, they met a wise Hudiesaurus named Janice. "Hello, travelers," Janice greeted them. "What brings you here?"

"We're investigating the mysterious mist," Dr. Montgomery explained. Janice nodded.

"Follow me. I know this place like the back of my claws." Grateful for her help, they continued with Janice by their side. They soon encountered a fast Liaoceratops named Clawfire. "Need a scout? I'm the fastest around," Clawfire offered. "Stick with us, Clawfire. We need all the help we can get," Dr. Montgomery said.

Together, they navigated dense forests, rocky plains, and steep hills. Each step brought them closer to their goal. They discovered the source of the mist—an erupting volcano spewing thick, sulfurous haze. "The ground is shaking," Dr. Montgomery observed. "We need to act fast." If the volcano erupted, it would unleash destruction. They needed to warn the other dinosaurs and lead them to safety. Janice suggested a route, and Clawfire offered to race ahead and spread the word. Dr. Montgomery and Slatetooth guided the dinosaurs along the escape route. "We must hurry," Janice urged.

They set their plan in motion. Clawfire darted through the forest, spreading the message. "Move, move!" Clawfire shouted to the other dinosaurs. Janice led the group, guiding them through treacherous terrain, while Dr. Montgomery and Slatetooth urged their friends to move quickly and stay together.

As they neared the edge of the valley, the ground trembled violently beneath their feet. The once calm landscape was now full of chaos. The volcano loomed like an angry giant, its roar echoing through the valley as it spewed molten lava and ash high into the sky. The air grew thick with smoke, making it hard to breathe, and the heat was so intense that it felt like the air was burning.

Dr. Montgomery's heart pounded like a drum in his chest, each beat reverberating with the urgency of their situation. He risked a glance back at the flames, its fiery lips licking the sky, and shouted, "Quickly! We're almost there!"

Suddenly, a massive tree, its trunk engulfed in flames, crashed down in front of them, sending sparks and debris flying. Dr. Montgomery and Slatetooth barely dodged it, their movements fueled by adrenaline pulsing through their blood. The path ahead was now blocked, a wall of flames and wood in front of them.

"We need to find another way!" Slatetooth exclaimed, his voice full of panic. His eyes darted around, searching for any escape route.

Janice, always quick on her feet, pointed to a narrow passageway hidden among the underbrush. "This way! Follow me!" she yelled, her voice determined.

With no time to lose, they squeezed through the passage, the heat and smoke pressing in on them. "Keep going, we're nearly safe," Dr. Montgomery encouraged. The roar of the volcano grew louder, and the ground shook with increasing intensity. Dr. Montgomery could feel the adrenaline coursing through his veins as they raced against time.

Finally, they emerged from the passage and saw the open plains ahead. The dinosaurs, now safe from the sudden eruption, looked back with relief and gratitude. "We did it," Dr. Montgomery said, exhausted but relieved.

As he prepared to return to his time machine, he turned to his dinosaur friends. "I have to go back now," he said. "Thank you for everything."

Slatetooth's eyes glistened in the sun. "Will you ever come back?"

"I hope so," Dr. Montgomery replied with a smile.

Janice nodded. "Safe travels, my friend."

Clawfire added, "We'll never forget you."

With a heavy heart, Dr. Montgomery stepped into his protected time machine. He waved one last time, and in an instant, he was back in the present day. Back in his lab, Dr. Montgomery realized that true discovery wasn't just about discovering fossils—it was also about forming connections and understanding the world.

# Return of the Confuciusornises

*Singapore International School (Hong Kong), Zhou, Chenyu – 10*

“AAHH!” Banshee shrieks filled the air as civilians around the globe were chased down by bird-like creatures with mammoth wings and abnormally sharp talons. The government officials worldwide refused to talk about the beasts, as they knew that the truth would petrify the world...

The long held belief was that dinosaurs were wiped out by an asteroid impact. But an asteroid impact couldn't possibly have destroyed billions of dinosaurs at once! After more indagation, scientists determined that dinosaurs were actually wiped out by aliens rather than raining asteroids! The asteroids were actually alien aircrafts, filled with numerous aliens prepared to take over the Earth. Scientists speculated that the aliens that embarked on the mission to attack the Earth were neutralized by the dinosaurs. Since global leaders were worried that there would be another alien invasion, they decided to clone an army of dinosaurs to protect the Earth, using traces of DNA found in the fossils of the Confuciusornis, which were discovered in the Liaoning province during the Chinese “fossil rush”. As more flying dinosaurs were created, they were increasingly harder to contain, and the lean, mean killing machines escaped. They rampaged around the world and destroyed everything in sight.

Paleontologists began to research more about dinosaurs, and realised that flying carnivorous dinosaurs were destroyed before the alien invasion. This meant the herbivores managed to beat the carnivores! Exhilarated, paleontologists shared this information with the world-renowned John Einstein, the great-nephew of the illustrious Albert Einstein. John managed to build a time machine, which would allow people to journey to the Age of Dinosaurs and bring the herbivores back. However, there was a catch. Dragons were the ancestors of dinosaurs, and the portal to the Age of Dinosaurs closes at the end of the Year of the Dragon. Therefore the people on the mission had to bring the herbivores to the Earth before the year ends or they would be stuck in the Age of Dinosaurs for twelve years.

When John asked for volunteers to embark on the mission, the hands of his children, twelve year olds George and Annie shot up into the air. “Dad, we want to save the world!” John finally relented after endless pleas were hurled at him. He gave the twins special suits and earpieces, which would allow them to understand and speak dinosaur language. Then, John turned on the time machine. A beam of light absorbed George and Annie, and they journeyed to the mystic Age of Dinosaurs.

“Liaoning province, Age of Dinosaurs” The time machine beeped. The disoriented twins were astonished as they marvelled at the dinosaur world. The duo suddenly spotted screeching Confuciusornises battling with Chungkingosaruses. They were so intrigued that they didn't notice a gigantic creature looming over them. “George. Let's start recruiting the herbi- ah!” Before she could finish her sentence, she was lifted into the air. George froze and stared, aghast, at his writhing sister, who was currently imprisoned inside the menacing jaws of an enormous Confuciusornis. Before he knew it, he was lifted off his feet too and he lost consciousness.

George awoke to find a pair of intimidating eyes belonging to a Confuciusornis gazing at him intently. He let out a bloodcurdling scream, but could not flee as he was suspended in midair by the Confuciusornis. He noticed they were in a forest clearing, and his sister was held captive next to him.

The Confuciusornis opened its beak wide, preparing to swallow the duo in one gulp. This scared the living daylight out of George and Annie. George shut his eyes and awaited for his doom, but after waiting for quite a while he was still not minced meat. All of a sudden, he was dropped and he heard a roar of pain.



George opened his eyes to find that an enormous Chungkingosaurus was standing over him. If there was an Olympic competition for sweating the fastest, it would be a piece of cake for George, with beads of sweat dotting rapidly on his forehead. The dinosaur opened his mouth and rumbled, "Don't worry. You are safe from the Confuciusornises!"

He stood up, and Annie, who was lying beside him, did the same. They explained the Earth's situation. The Chungkingosaurus soon decided to take his comrades to save the Earth. "Yes!" Annie punched the air in excitement with a jubilant grin.

"Oh no!" George yelled. Something vital had just occurred to him. "The Year of the Dragon is ending! We have one minute, hurry!" George started sprinting towards the time machine like lightning, with Annie at his heels.

"Onward!" The Chungkingosarus bellowed, and the other Chungkingosaruses, who appeared out of nowhere galloped towards the time machine. George and Annie gazed at the dinosaurs apprehensively. "We have to risk it!" George yelled and turned on the machine. It shot out a beam of light and engulfed them. Luckily, the beam of light shot just far enough to reach the Chungkingosaruses, and they too were gulped down by the light.

The Chungkingosaruses and the twins arrived at the present day. They walked out of the light to find that there was a blockade of carnivores. The Chungkingosaruses instantaneously charged and in a blink of an eye, the Confuciusornises all fell limply to the ground without much of a fight. The remaining clusters of carnivores worldwide were dealt with easily and the humans made a deal with the saviours of the Earth: the herbivores would safeguard the Earth, and when the Year of the Dragon returned in twelve years' time, the herbivores would be sent back to their own time.

As the humans were celebrating, a beam of light shot out of the time machine out of the blue. Reflexively shielding their faces from the light, people peered towards the machine, and the last thing they saw was a swish of a spiky tail, before the machine was gone. The humans were flabbergasted. What would they do? The investigation continues...

# Journey to Ancient Dinosaur World

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Chan, Chung Yam – 10*

“Are you kidding me?” Gaochen groaned in despair. “How am I supposed to write a 1000-word short story about China’s dinosaurs? I wish there had never been a single dinosaur on Earth...”

Gaochen was a model student at school, achieving the highest marks in English, Mathematics, Art, Science, and more. He had also won countless awards for soccer, swimming, and rugby. However, nobody is perfect—Gaochen struggled with Chinese History. He just couldn’t understand why he didn’t find the subject as fascinating as others.

“I’ll just take a short ten-minute break. Hopefully, I’ll get some new ideas when I wake up!” He then closed his eyes and returned to the land of Nod.

Whoosh!

Gaochen was appalled when he fell out of the world and into limitless space. He closed his eyes, praying for safety. Then, all was dark.

When he regained consciousness, he found that he was surrounded by blades of grass. The air had never smelled so fresh. Where was he?

“What is it? It is so bulky and uncomfortable,” Gaochen checked what he was sitting on. “Oh god,” he thought. He was sitting on an egg. It wasn’t just any egg; it was the most extraordinary egg Gaochen had ever seen. The egg was humongous, at least one hundred times the size of a normal chicken egg.

He looked up and realized he was not alone. A dinosaur was staring face-to-face at Gaochen. “Please... please do not eat me,” he stammered. The dinosaur bared its teeth and roared in reply. He tried to run, but his school bag made him lose his balance. Gaochen fainted after his head hit the ground.

When he woke up, he found himself on a bed in a laboratory. “Where... What... Who...” he muttered to himself. “Rest assured, you are safe. Rest.” He could barely hear a soft voice before he passed out again.

Ten minutes later, he opened his eyes and looked around. He saw a lady with lustrous black hair and bright, shiny glasses.

“Who are you? What happened?” Gaochen asked.

“I am from the future,” she replied. “You see, dinosaurs will go extinct sooner or later. I volunteered to go to Sichuan and Yunnan provinces in China to grab some specimen samples for my students. When I arrived using the time machine, I saw you lying on the ground unconscious. I used my tranquilizer to stop the dinosaur from eating you. It was Yangchuanosaurus, by the way. This large carnivore is from China. People in the future will find a complete skull and skeleton from the Upper Shaximiao Formation, Yongchuan District, Sichuan. It dates to the Oxfordian stage of the Late Jurassic period, about 161.2 to 157.3 million years ago. My name is Kaiming. You can call me Professor Kaiming. Nice to meet you.”

“You are my lifesaver, Professor Kaiming,” Gaochen thanked her gracefully. “I have been stuck here for some reason. Can you bring me back home somehow?”

“My time machine broke down when I arrived, and now I have to help this lost kid,” she grumbled. “Kid, let’s find some food and water. We don’t want to starve to death.”

Suddenly, Gaochen let out a high-pitched scream! He raised a shaking arm and pointed at something behind Professor Kaiming’s back. The professor whirled around and saw a dinosaur.

“Run!” shouted Gaochen. “It will eat you up!”

Instead of running, Professor Kaiming laughed so hard that tears came out of her eyes. “Don’t worry. It is only an Agilisaurus. It is a herbivore. It doesn’t eat meat, let alone humans!”

Gaochen felt relieved that he was wrong and there was no immediate danger. He followed Professor Kaiming and went hunting for food, water, and some other supplies.

After prowling for ages, their target was spotted. They found a natural spring. The trouble was, it was heavily guarded by Dilophosaurus sinensis, a carnivore that was 5.6 meters long. However, the dinosaurs left quickly after hearing their footsteps. The professor and Gaochen were able to have some fresh spring water.

Just as they were about to hunt for food, Gaochen heard a distant roar of a volcanic eruption. “What was that?” he asked the professor. Instead of responding, Professor Kaiming was shaking. She kept muttering, “It can’t be. It just can’t!”

Suddenly, Gaochen remembered a page in his history textbook. “The dinosaurs died out around 65 million years ago. The reason is still unknown, but some believe it was caused by a volcanic eruption,” he recited.

“Professor Kaiming, we need to leave now!” he shouted. Strangely, she was not beside him—she had vanished! Molten rocks were ejected from the volcano. A massive boulder was falling on him.

He awoke with a scream. “Luckily, it was just a dream,” he sighed. Then, he thought of something spectacular, picked up his pen, and started writing his history homework.

“Congratulations, Gaochen. Students, look at his majestic piece of homework. It should be called ‘the Mona Lisa of history!’” Gaochen’s History teacher praised him in front of his classmates.

“How did you do it, Gaochen? You were always poor in History. Can you share some tips?” his classmates asked him.

Gaochen could only reply with a smile.

What he didn’t notice were, however, the scratches on his school bag, seemingly made by a giant creature.

# The 48-hours with a Dinosaur

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Chan, E Ron – 11*

Out of my long career of being a palaeontologist, I've never been to China. However, according to my roster, I'll be going to China. Well, China's less well-explored by paleontologists so I'm quite excited.

Before the flight, I checked my luggage a million times. If I hadn't, I probably would have forgotten my camera. It was a long flight but I found it quite amusing, because I was very excited. After the plane landed, I immediately got my luggage and went on a taxi. I met up with my boss and we took a roadtrip to the desert. One the way, I felt a significant change in the weather and view. When I was trying to sleep, my boss talked about our trip. Who would try to sleep when your boss was talking. I wouldn't!

As we arrived, I admired the remarkable view. I have never seen this before. After walking a million miles, we finally arrived at the place where I dreamed of going when I was a trainee. It felt like heaven! I was so filled with excitement I thought I was gonna explode! I was woken by my boss. He said, "Do you want to hunt for fossils or not?" I simply replied by nodding my head rapidly to show that I was born ready.

We started hunting. I couldn't find anything special yet. But then suddenly, I heard some noises in a nearby cave. I ran to the cave, but there's nothing. I was about to leave but heard screams from another direction. I immediately ran towards the sound. I searched and searched but found nothing. As I was leaving, I heard a deafening scream.

I quickly turned around, expecting something crazy. There're dinosaur eggs, specifically, sinosauropteryx eggs. I was puzzled. Why were there eggs, and why were they making a noise? Then I realised: a baby sinosauropteryx was hatching out of the egg. I let out a glass-breaking scream.

I quickly took thousands of pictures of the baby. By now, the whole team was trying to find out what was going on. As they were approaching, I hesitated. Should I keep it to myself and act like nothing happened, or tell them the truth? I told them everything.

A few weeks later, the corporation said that they would be taking the sinosauropteryx to the zoo and since I discovered it, I could keep him for 48 hours. I felt elated. I got to keep a dinosaur for 48 hours! I had to give him the best time of his life! Even though he was only a baby, he's already half a meter long!

I put him in a stroller, wrapped him in towels and headed for our first stop — the theme park. We played ride after ride, ate everything we could and had a lot of fun. The craziest thing was that he didn't even scream when we were playing the scariest ride! I let him choose where to go. When I said a place, he would let out a small roar. The loudest roar would be the place we go. When I said, "Shopping spree," he let out a roar so loud, even the other side of earth could hear it!

We stepped into the mall and I could sense him thinking, "I'm going to make him bankrupt!" At last, we bought everything he touched. He even touched a clock! I didn't know dinosaurs could read time. But everything we bought was going into his room in the zoo. After that we went home and had a good night's sleep, ready for the best day ever — tomorrow.

The last 24 hours with him had arrived. We ate breakfast at a fancy restaurant. The crumbs I dropped would automatically go into his mouth. Then, we went to a Dinosaur Science Museum. I showed him the sinosauroptryx section. He immediately peeked his head out and roared lightly. Next, we went to watch a football match. I didn't know if they allowed dinosaurs so I just pretended it's a toy. I saw his small eyes focusing on the game, following the ball. Everytime the crowd yelled or chanted, he would roar with them, as if he was a fan.

After that, we went to the cinema. I rented it for the whole evening and we watched all the dinosaur movies we could find until we were ready to eat dinner. We went to a 5-star restaurant to eat our last dinner. He ordered spaghetti. When the food arrived, he immediately devoured it all, even licking the dish. I ordered some more plates and we ate until we thought we would explode!

The corporation arrived with their pickup truck. I told them, "His favorite food is spaghetti. He won't forgive you if you only give him one plate." I said my last goodbye to him, watching him leave in the back of the truck. I saw him give out his last roar, saying, "Don't worry about me, I will be fine! Remember to visit me!" This left me in tears.

He has become a local attraction at the zoo, making millions of people come to visit him. I visited him the next week, seeing him through the iron bars. He immediately ran towards me, sniffing me and roaring at me. He has grown a lot, almost twice the size of him last week. I took out something. He immediately roared. It was spaghetti. Seeing him devour it brought me back the memories of us together.

At last, I learnt that we should cherish our time with our family and loved ones because you never know when it's too late. They won't be with you forever so spend the best time with them.

# The Fossil Awakening

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Chan, Hing Lun – 10*

In the peaceful area of Liaoning, a humble farmer named Mr. Lo was growing his crops when he stumbled upon an unusual rock. As he brushed off the dirt, he realized it was a fossil, intricately patterned and ancient-looking. With excitement, he took it to the local museum, where it was displayed as a rare find.

Twenty years later, the village had grown, and the fossil in the museum had become a local attraction. However, beneath the surface, something dark was stirring. A powerful wizard named Petrus had discovered an ancient spell that could awaken the dinosaur fossils of China and summon them to do his bidding.

One stormy night, Petrus stood in the museum, chanting ancient words. The ground trembled as the fossils began to glow and piece together. Soon, entire skeletons of dinosaurs emerged, brought to life by the dark magic. The people of Liaoning were terrified as the dinosaur fossils rampaged through the town. "Look at them!" shouted Petrus with a sinister grin. "These fossils will make me unstoppable!"

To stop this chaos, the government formed a special team led by Mr. Lo, the farmer who had found the first fossil. With him were an eclectic group of experts: Ting, a brilliant paleontologist; Ma, a tech-savvy engineer; and Chu, a courageous martial artist. They were equipped with a special gizmo named the ARMOR, designed to catch the awakened fossils.

"Our mission is clear," Mr. Lo said, addressing his team. "We must capture ten of the awakened fossils to disrupt Petrus's spell and stop him from summoning the legendary dinosaur. Everyone ready?" he asked, holding the gizmo tightly. "Ready!" the team responded in unison.

They set off on their quest, tracking down the fossils across the area. Each fossil was a challenge, as they encountered different types of dinosaurs, from the swift Velociraptors to the massive Stegosaurus. Ting used her knowledge to identify weak spots, while Ma operated the gizmo with precision, and Chu protected the team from any dangers.

Their first encounter was with a group of Velociraptors in a dense forest. "Ting, any ideas on how to approach them?" Mr. Lo asked. "Velociraptors have keen senses, but they're also clever. We'll need to outsmart them," Ting replied.

Ma set up the gizmo, and caught the first velociraptor. The second velociraptor roared in rage and charged at Chu, who sidestepped and threw the ARMOR, and captured the velociraptor. "That's two down," Ma said, wiping sweat from his brow. "Eight more to go."

The team continued their journey, facing new challenges at every turn. They captured a Triceratops in a wide-open plain and an Apatosaurus near a riverbank. Each time, they used a combination of strategy, courage, and teamwork to succeed.

"We're halfway there," Mr. Lo said, trying to keep spirits high. "Keep it up, everyone." Their most difficult challenge came when they had to capture a Stegosaurus in the mountains. The creature's spiked tail made it a formidable opponent. "We need to be extra careful," Chu warned. "One wrong move, and we're in trouble."

After a tense standoff, they managed to corner the Stegosaurus. Ma aimed the ARMOR, and with a flash of light, the fossil was captured. "That was close," Ma said, breathing a sigh of relief.

One by one, they managed to capture nine fossils, each time feeling the pressure mounting. The final fossil was rumored to be hidden deep in the Forbidden Forest, a place enveloped in mystery and danger. As they ventured into the forest, they couldn't shake the feeling of being watched. "Stay alert," Mr. Lo cautioned. "We're close."

Suddenly, a massive shadow loomed over them. It was the tenth fossil, a fierce Tyrannosaurus Rex brought back to life by Petrus's dark magic. "We have to be careful," Ting whispered, eyes wide with fear. Mr. Lo nodded. "This is it. We can't fail now."

With a combination of bravery, strategy, and teamwork, they managed to corner the T-Rex. Ma aimed the ARMOR, and with a flash of light, the fossil was captured. The ground shook as the spell began to weaken, but there was one more revelation waiting for them. Mr. Lo examined the fossil closely and realized it matched the one he had found years ago. "This... this is the legendary dinosaur," he said, his voice filled with awe.

The team hurried back to the museum, where Petrus was preparing his final spell. They confronted him, and with the ten captured fossils, they disrupted the magic. Petrus's spell died, and the awakened fossils crumbled to the ground, lifeless once more. "You've ruined everything!" Petrus screamed, before teleporting back to his lair in a puff of smoke.

The village of Liaoning was saved, and the people celebrated the team's bravery. Mr. Lo, Ting, Ma, and Chu became heroes, their story passed down through generations.

The legendary dinosaur fossil was preserved and displayed in a special exhibit, reminding everyone of the power of teamwork and courage. And so, the Fossil Awakening became a tale of adventure, magic, and heroism, a story that would be told for years to come.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Chan, Ho Shing Brandon – 9*

Brandon had always been a dinosaur enthusiast, and his parents had promised him a trip to the Tianyu Museum of Nature if he achieved good results in the exam. Determined to make his dream come true, Brandon buried himself in his studies.

One sunny afternoon, while taking a break from his books, he decided to explore an old bookstore. There, he stumbled upon a dusty, ancient book titled "Journey to the West: The Time Traveler's Edition." He opened it and found a peculiar map with a note: "Follow the path to uncover the secrets of China's dinosaurs."

Without a second thought, Brandon traced the route with his finger, a whirlwind of colors surrounded him, and he found himself transported back in time to ancient China. He landed in a bustling village, where he was greeted by a mischievous monkey named Sun Wukong.

"Welcome, traveler! I see you've found the magical map," Sun Wukong said with a grin. "Ready for an adventure?"

Brandon, still in shock, nodded. "I guess so! Where are we going?"

"To the land of the dinosaurs, of course!" Sun replied. "But first, we need to gather some supplies. Follow me!"

Sun led him to a small temple where a wise Buddhist monk named Tang Sanzang resided.

"Sun Wukong, and a new friend! What brings you here?" Tang Sanzang asked.

"We're on a quest to find the dinosaurs of China," Sun explained. "We need your guidance, my Master."

Tang nodded thoughtfully. "Take this compass; it will lead you to the hidden fossils."

With the compass in hand, Brandon and Sun set off on their adventure. They traveled through dense forests, crossed raging rivers, and climbed towering mountains.

In the evening, as they camped under the stars, Brandon asked, "Mr Sun, do you think we'll really find dinosaurs?"

Sun chuckled. "Of course! China is full of surprises."

The next day, they arrived in the province of Liaoning, known for its rich fossil beds. They stumbled upon the remains of a *Sinosauropteryx*, the very first clearly feathered dinosaur ever discovered.

"Look at this!" Brandon exclaimed. "It's the China dragon bird!"

Sun examined the bones with interest. "Fascinating! But there's more to discover. Let's keep going."

Their journey took them to Jiangxi, where they found the newly discovered titanosaur. The massive bones were a sight to behold, and Brandon couldn't contain his excitement.

"This is incredible! Imagine what stories these fossils could tell," Brandon said, his eyes wide with wonder.

Sun nodded. "Each fossil is a piece of history, waiting to be uncovered."

As they continued their adventure, they encountered more dinosaur species. They found pterosaurs with wings spread wide, ready to take flight, and tiny raptors that roamed the ancient forests.

As they trekked through a jungle, they heard a loud roar.

Sun grinned. "Sounds like we're about to have some fun. Let's check it out!"



They followed the sound where two dinosaurs were facing off. On one side was a massive Yutyrannus, a feathered tyrannosaurid with a fierce look in its eyes. On the other side was a Sinoceratops, a large ceratopsian with a frill and a single horn on its nose.

“Looks like we’ve got a seat to a dino showdown!” Sun said, grabbing a handful of popcorn from seemingly nowhere.

Brandon laughed. “Where did you get that?”

“Magic, my friend. Magic,” Sun Wukong replied with a wink.

The Yutyrannus roared and charged at the Sinoceratops, who responded by lowering its head and charging back. The ground shook as the two giants collided. Feathers flew, and the Sinoceratops’ frill clashed with the Yutyrannus’ teeth.

“This is better than any movie!” Brandon exclaimed, eyes glued to the battle.

After a fierce struggle, the Sinoceratops managed to push the Yutyrannus back, and the feathered predator decided to escape. With a final roar, it retreated into the jungle.

“Victory for the Sinoceratops!” Sun cheered, tossing popcorn in the air.

Brandon shook his head, laughing. “That was amazing! I can’t believe we just saw a dinosaur battle.”

As they rested by a lake, Brandon reflected on their journey. “Sun Wukong, this has been the adventure of a lifetime. I’ve learned so much about China’s dinosaurs and the rich history of this land.”

Sun smiled. “The past is full of secrets, just waiting to be uncovered.”

As the sun set, Brandon felt a sudden, violent tremor beneath his feet. The ground shook and the sky above began to fracture like a shattered mirror.

The earthquake's force grew stronger, and the world around him started to crumble. Brandon struggled to maintain his balance, his heart pounding in his chest.

A blinding light enveloped him, and he felt himself being pulled away from the ancient world. The sensation was overwhelming, as if he were being yanked through a tunnel at high speed. He closed his eyes, bracing himself for whatever awaited him on the other side.

“Goodbye, Sun Wukong!” Brandon shouted, his voice barely audible over the roar of the earthquake.

When the light finally faded, Brandon found himself lying on the floor of his apartment. The adventure had felt so real, but now he was back in the familiar surroundings.

He realized that the earthquake was the key to bring him back to reality. The ancient world had shattered, but he was safe.

With a heart full of excitement, Brandon knew that his adventure was far from over. The past might be full of secrets, but the present held its own mysteries, waiting to be uncovered.

A few weeks later, Brandon had achieved the good results he had hoped for. He finally visited The Tianyu Museum of Nature. The place, the ancient world depicted in the displays, was exactly the same as the one he had visited during his adventure.

Brandon smiled to himself, knowing that his journey had been real in its own way. The museum was a testament to the wonders he had seen, and he felt a deep connection to the ancient world of China’s dinosaurs.

# The Trip to the Late Cretaceous Period

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Cheuk, Tsun Him – 9*

Bobby leapt out of bed to the sound of his alarm. It was the annual school visit to The National Museum of Dinosaur Fossils. Stunned when seeing Bobby, his mum asked “Why are you up so early?” whilst trying not to choke on her coffee. Without an explanation he raced to the door to meet Tommy to walk to school. Tommy and Bobby have been best friends since kindergarten and what started out as a fight over a toy T-rex, soon became a close friendship bonded by their love for dinosaurs. “Did you do Miss Ming’s homework last night?” questioned Tommy. Bobby answered with passion, “Of course not! Dinosaur Weekly came out yesterday. I read the whole thing in one night.”

In anticipation, they climbed the marble steps and gazed up at the gigantic grand doors of the museum, which welcomed them in. Bobby and Tommy were the first to follow their designated tour guide. With excitement rushing through their body, he took them on a journey to meet ancient dinosaurs.

Bobby and Tommy hung on to every word the tour guide spoke as he retold stories and descriptions for each fossil. The next fossil he brought them to immediately caught Bobby’s eye. A two-meter-long skull with one hundred and thirty sharp and long teeth. A long and pointed mouth and eye sockets as large and dark as the night sky.

“Here we have The China Dragon Bird, or as scientists like to call it, a “Sinosauropteryx”. The tour guide continued to speak, but Bobby could no longer hear. The only thing that Bobby could focus on was staring in to the soul of this fossil. “Was that a glimmer?” Bobby asked himself as he gazed in to the eye. Suddenly the glimmer of light Bobby thought he saw bolted from the fossil, pounded in to his chest and entered his body. Everything was gone. No museum. No Tommy. Just blackout.

Bobby opened his eyes, which felt heavy and blurred, to discover that he was perched on top of a tree. He turned his head and to his horror, saw a strange looking feathered dinosaur asleep right next to him. Without control Tommy wailed, which caused the dinosaur to wake up and scream. But to Bobby’s surprise, he recognized the voice. “Tommy? Is that you?” The dinosaur replied with a confused nod. “You are a Sinosauropteryx!” cried Bobby. “So are you.” replied Tommy. They had been transported back in time and turned into dinosaurs by the spirit of the Sinosauropteryx. The boys gazed at each other’s unusually long tails and short arms with a grin.

They held their breath whilst taking in their new habitat. The tree they found themselves in seemed endlessly tall and surrounded by an overgrown forest. The air felt wet and there were strange roaring sounds coming from below them. They had never heard anything like these sounds before. They quickly realised they were good climbers and were safe up in the tree.

They immediately got into survival mode. They made a nest to sleep in, found a lake to drink water from and kept watch for any predators that may have found them. But they were hungry and did not know how to hunt.

The next morning, they woke up to a scream from above. “Help!” The boys glanced up to find a bird like dinosaur with an injured wing. Bobby shouts back, “Come here! It’s safe.”

The dinosaur flew down to their nest and took a deep breath. “My name is Sussan. Thank you for helping me. What can I do to repay you?” The boys stared at this strange, pheasant-sized dinosaur. Tommy noticed a patch of white feathers in the shape of a star on her chest. “Wow! Cool star!” “I’m the only one with this star!” she replied. Bobby

rolled his eyes and cut in. “We are starving, could you help us?” They carefully climbed to the bottom of the tree and started to find some lizards, and insects for food. Sussan showed Bobby and Tommy around their new habitat, how to stay safe and how to hunt.

Suddenly, they felt the ground trembling with vibrations and heard the distant sound of footprint thuds. They turned around to find a gigantic Tyrannosaurus rex looking down at them. “ROARRRR!!!” Sussan screeched in fear, “Run for your lives!” The three of them raced through the forest. They felt the T-rex’s breath on their feathered necks. Finally, they reached their tree and climbed to safety. This is when Bobby remembered what period a T-rex is from and panicked, “Tommy, we are in trouble.” He said, trying to catch his breath. Tommy looked confused. “The T-rex came from the Late Cretaceous period before an asteroid had hit earth, wiping out all dinosaurs that couldn’t fly. I learned about it in last week’s Dinosaur Weekly.” Sussan looks surprised and asked, “How do you know this?” Bobby replied, “We are actually from the future and are human. But, don’t worry, Sussan. Fly dinosaurs will survive.

Whilst gazing at the stars, Bobby and Tommy worried about never getting home again. “What are we going to do?” whimpered Tommy. “I don’t know. But I do know that I will never complain about doing my homework again.”

They fell asleep and woke up to find themselves back in the museum on the cold, wooden floor. Their classmates stood surrounding them confused and concerned. Bobby whispered to Tommy, “What just happened?” Tommy answered, “Maybe it was a dream?”

Confused, the two boys left the museum to head home with the rest of their school friends. Suddenly, a pheasant swooped down in front of them, nearly touching their faces with its wings, and landed on a nearby fence. Tommy said, “Bobby, look!” “The star!” Bobby’s eyes instantly found the white feathered star located on the bird’s chest. “Sussan?” Bobby asked. The bird replied with a roaring squawk.

# The Museum of Time

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Chiu, Ho Yin – 10*

It was another normal day, I was reluctant to go on the boring school field trip. I tried to pretend to be sick in order to skip school, but it was no use. Little did I know, this field trip would be the most memorable one of my life.

On the school bus, everybody was talking about how the museum was famous for being dirty and run-down. When we got to the museum, I instantly knew why, the museum wasn't exactly a pretty sight, there were cracks in the walls and the plaster was constantly falling off. There was also a lot of rubbish on the floor. Disgusted by the sight, I thought that this would be the worst school trip ever.

When we entered the museum, the teacher immediately started talking about the rules and us being on our best behaviour. After three minutes of torture, we finally started our tour of the museum. During the tour, the teachers were all talking about the ancient dynasties, kingdoms and all their treasures. I felt like I was going to die of boredom.

One eternity later, we finally reached the dinosaur section, I was desperate for something to keep me entertained, I wanted to take out my phone and play video games secretly, but the teachers had X-ray eyes that could spot your phone in a millisecond, and in the blink of an eye, you were in the detention room. So I was stuck in an endless trip of boredom. Suddenly, a glowing door caught my eye, 'hmmmm' I thought, the teachers weren't looking in my direction and the crowd of classmates was covering me. 'I guess it wouldn't hurt to check it out.' I thought. When I opened the door, I couldn't see anything. Slowly, I took a step forward, only to find that there was no solid ground, 'uh oh' I thought, and the next thing I knew, I was falling to my death.

'Owwwww' I said, my entire body felt like it was on fire, but I was somehow alive. 'Hello, mortal.' A mysterious voice said. Terrified, I scrambled to my feet, but there was nobody but a glowing white orb.

'Welcome to the time chamber.' The orb said. 'I sensed that you thought that ancient times were boring and purposeless. You disrespected time, you disrespected your ancestors. That is unacceptable. Perhaps you lack...excitement.' Suddenly, a blinding flash of light enveloped me.

'Ahhh!!!!' I screamed, in all of a sudden, I was falling out of the sky! I landed face first in the dirt, fortunately, I was alive. A menacing deep voice growled behind me, when I turned my head in horror, I saw... a dinosaur! Suddenly, the orb's soothing voice rang in my head. 'That is an Alectrosaurus, it is a medium-sized, moderately-built dinosaur discovered in China. Alectrosaurus is a very fast running dinosaur, so I recommend you to climb up that stone pillar instead of running.' I quickly ascended the stone pillar and sighed in relief. Just when I thought everything was fine, a tiny bird-like dinosaur suddenly pecked at me. 'That is a Confuciusornis, it is the earliest-known toothless, beaked bird.

Like other birds, the Confuciusornis evolved from a dinosaur. A lot of these flying birds have been discovered in China. They are carnivorous, so you better watch out!' 'Quit talking and save me! I'm going to die!' The orb sighed in disappointment, as if he was hoping I would have been thrilled by seeing ancient dinosaurs that were trying to kill me. 'Fine, I'll teleport you to dinosaurs that are herbivores.'

A blinding flash of light enveloped me again, and this time, I was on solid ground. When I came to my senses, A dinosaur was walking past me! It didn't seem hostile though. 'That is a Chinshakiangosaurus, it is a herbivore and its

length is 12 –13 meters long and its height is similar to other sauropods, approximately 12 meters high.'Slowly, the sauropod lifted his feet and walked towards a nearby tree, to the dinosaur, I was probably so short that I was invisible. The sauropod came to a slow trot , nearly trampling me , I fell to my feet, horrified, I tried to run away, but the sauropod was too close, it raised its left foot, and then darkness enveloped me.

When I came to my senses, I was not lying on dirt, but... the museum floor! I quickly scrambled to my feet, and looked around, the museum tour group was just a few steps away from me! I looked back at the mysterious door, and saw that it was half opened, the white orb was peeking out of the door, faintly pulsing as if saying goodbye, I smiled and turned around, quickly running back to the tour group. This, was the most frightening, but best museum trip of my life.

# Being Teleported By The Time Machine To The Dinosaur World

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Hon, Shing Ho – 10*

One day, on my way home with my friends, we spot a bag on the bench in the park. We took a closer look at the bag and found an unfamiliar machine inside. When we were examining what it was, Thomas suddenly pressed the button and a beaming flash shocked us.

We woke up and found ourselves surrounded by huge ferns. Having no idea where we were, some grinding sound welcomed us which sent icy shivers down our spines. We were very terrified and I had an intuition that something bad was going to happen. Some stomping sound was approaching, leaves and ferns were tumbling. Michael pointed at a far-away pterosaur behind the trees, trembling with fear. We could not believe that we had travelled back to the dinosaur world!

“Let’s hide behind the giant ferns so we won’t be easily spotted,” suggested Michael. We quickly ran as fast as cheetahs and crouched behind the ferns. Jason exclaimed, “We have travelled back to Cretaceous period! I have read Encyclopaedia of Dinosaurs. Pterosaurs are carnivores!”

I collected bits of wood on the ground and made ourselves spears for protection. Jason spotted the enormous paw-prints on the ground, “We should stay still when we are in face of any dinosaurs. They will perceive us as attackers if we move.”

Michael felt something slimy on his back, he froze and stared at me with fear. My mouth was wide open when I noticed the head of Sinosauropteryx behind him. We stood still with our legs shivering. We held our breath and waited until it left.

“I want to escape from here!” Joey exclaimed. Michael said, “How about pressing the button again?” Thomas quickly took out the machine and pressed the red button on its top impatiently.

After the flash, they travelled to the park, where they found the machine. They all took a deep breath and sighed, “What a thrilling adventure!”

# Journey Through Time: The Siblings and the Titanosaur

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Lam, Cyrus – 11*

In China, dinosaurs are not merely creatures of the past but an ongoing fascination. For decades, the country has been the stage for incredible fossil discoveries. In the northern part of Liaoning Province, countless dinosaur fossils have been unearthed. Each one has a fascinating tale. Among those captivated by these ancient beings are siblings Peter and Mei, whose shared passion for dinosaurs is as unending as the Great Wall.

Their minds could be described as sponges. They absorbed every bit of dinosaur knowledge they could find. Their conversations were an endless symphony of fossils and dinosaurs. Peter and Mei were like two peas in a pod, and nothing could tear them away from the dinosaur world.

One fateful day, they decided to venture to Jiangxi. The mountains of Jiangxi rose steep, but their enthusiasm remained undiminished. With each step, Peter and Mei hoped to discover something extraordinary. Their hopes were realized when Mei keenly discovered something different from any fossil she had ever seen. It was grand and spherical, and it seemed to glow in the sun.

"A titanosaur egg!" Peter exclaimed, his voice trembling with disbelief.

Mei could hardly believe it. "It's a new species. This is the discovery of a lifetime!" she proclaimed. Her voice cracked with elation.

They took the egg back to their lab and created the perfect environment, maintaining precise temperature and humidity level. Weeks later, the impossible happened – the egg cracked open, revealing a baby titanosaur with bright, curious eyes. They couldn't believe what they were seeing. They named it "Long", a nod to the Chinese word for dragon. Its tail was majestic like a serpent. It seemed a living myth, come to life before their very eyes.

Long grew at an astonishing rate, soon outgrowing the lab. As they struggled to accommodate their extraordinary charge, something miraculous occurred. The air shimmered, and suddenly they found themselves transported to a prehistoric jungle. Towering trees reached toward the sky while massive dinosaurs roamed in the distance.

"This can't be real," Mei gasped. "It's like stepping into a dream."

Peter rubbed his eyes in disbelief. "It's not a dream, Mei. We've somehow traversed into another world."

Long stood beside them, now fully matured. The jungle around them was alive with sound. Primitive birds soared overhead like small dragons, while massive herbivores grazed peacefully. Their wonder was interrupted by thunderous roars. The ground shook with heavy footsteps. Soon, they saw a group of dinosaurs in trouble.

A massive Tyrannosaurus Rex had found the herd. Its teeth gleamed in the sunlight and were like daggers. Its eyes were full of hunger. The predator was enormous. Each step it took made the ground shake.

The T-Rex charged at the smaller dinosaurs. Its jaws snapped viciously. The herbivores scattered in fear. They ran in different directions. Their calls of distress filled the air. The predator focused on a young Triceratops. The small dinosaur was slower than the others.

Long sprang into action. His long neck swung like a whip. He positioned himself between the T-Rex and its prey. The two giant creatures faced each other. The T-Rex roared in challenge. Long stood his ground firmly.

The battle was fierce. The T-Rex lunged with powerful jaws while Long dodged skilfully. He used his long tail as a weapon. It struck the T-Rex's side. The predator stumbled but didn't fall.

The fight continued. The T-Rex circled Long. It looked for weak spots. Long kept his position. He protected the smaller dinosaurs. His size matched the T-Rex's strength. Neither would back down easily.

Finally, Long made his move. He reared up on his hind legs. His full height was impressive. He came down with force. The ground shook violently, causing the T-Rex to lose balance. It fell backwards. Its roar was angry but weak.

The predator got up slowly. Then it turned away. It disappeared into the jungle. The battle was over. Long had won. The smaller dinosaurs were safe.

Recognizing the herd's need for safety, Long led them through the jungle to a hidden valley. Protected by high cliffs and blessed with a waterfall and abundant vegetation, it was the perfect sanctuary. No predator could easily enter this natural fortress. The dinosaurs settled in, finding places to nest and graze in peace.

As the siblings watched the creatures adapt to the new home, they felt the air grow dense once again. They knew their time in this world was ending.

"We can't stay forever," Mei said. "Life, to be worthy of a rational being, must ever be in progress. We must return and continue our research."

Long tenderly nuzzled Mei's hand with his long neck, as if he understood their decision. The dinosaurs gathered around and each one expressed gratitude for their help and support. The bond between them was unspoken but strong. They knew they could not forget the humans who had been their allies.

With heavy hearts, the siblings turned to depart. In the blink of an eye, they were back in their lab. Through the prehistoric world had vanished like a dream, their memories remained vivid. The knowledge they had gained was now part of them. They had seen dinosaurs in their true environment. They had witnessed their behaviour firsthand. They had learned things no book could teach them. They wrote papers about dinosaur behaviour. They made detailed sketches of what they had seen.

The full truth of their extraordinary journey would remain their precious secret. They were no longer just researchers, but part of an ancient story. Their experience proved that some wonders of the natural world transcend scientific explanation, and the greatest discoveries come when we open our hearts to the impossible.



# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Lau, Yik Long – 10*

One day, I went hiking with my parents on a mountain when I noticed this – an egg! It was not just any normal egg, but a strange one. It was huge and had different spots on it. I had no idea what was inside it, but I didn't want it to get eaten so I decided to take it home.

A few days later, crack-cracky-cracko went the egg, it seemed to be revealing something in it. 'What was in it?' I had to check it out. Poof! A baby creature emerged out of it. It looked just like a dinosaur, but what was it? It was tiny, about the size of a normal chicken, with an unusually long tail and short arms. I studied it for a while and figured out that it was a Sinosauropteryx!

I named it 'Dino', since 'Sino' rhymed with 'Dino', and 'Dino' was the short form of 'Dinosaur'. 'Dino!' I patted its head softly with my hand. 'Rar! Rar! Rar!' it squeaked. It seemed quite happy. Dino was a carnivore, so I gave it some hotdogs to eat. 'Nom,' it went, 'Nom. Nom. Yum!' Dino loved hotdogs! Since then, I always brought some hotdogs with me for Dino.

Dino was still a baby, and it had to be taken care of all day long. Therefore, I decided to bring it to school. However, life at school was not easy with it wriggling around like a rat in my school bag. At lunch, I had to feed it without anybody noticing, well, except for my good friends. They didn't tell the teachers, of course, or we would all be in big, big troubles. Going to the toilet with it was probably even worse than feeding it. Why? It was because it peed on the floor, and destroyed all the tissue paper. That was the hardest day at school I had ever had.

Another day, Dino acted a little strange. It screamed, 'Rar! Rar! Rar! Rar! Rar! Rar!', and pointed to the television, which was broadcasting 'NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'. Oh! It was about dinosaurs! Dino jumped up and down on the sofa, screaming, 'Rar o' Rar o' Rarry o' Roar!!!' Aha! Bringing him to the museum was absolutely perfect! Seeing Dino's energetic look, I decided to bring him to the museum.

In the museum, there were all sorts of exhibits, including models, statues, jewels and more. 'That's amazing!' I thought. Meanwhile, naughty Dino tried to eat a model of a tiny lizard! I stopped him just as he was about to gulp the whole thing!

Finally, we arrived at the DINOSAUR section. Dino was frozen, and he looked sad. Not far away from us were the bones of a Sinosauropteryx! It might even be Dino's relative! Suddenly, a mysterious figure seemed to be creeping behind us. 'Hi!', the person said. 'Who are you? Why are you following us?' I exclaimed. He said, 'I'm Professor Rex, a researcher that loves dinosaurs. Oh, well, is this a real dinosaur?!' 'Yes, it is. Its name is Dino,' I replied. 'I've been waiting you for a long time, come with me!' Professor Rex invited and led me to his lab inside the museum.

The lab was packed with dinosaurs' fossils & skeletons. 'This is my invention – The Time Traveller Machine!', said Professor Rex. A square box appeared in the air. 'Press your feet into it, little Dino', he ordered. 'Rar...?!' Dino roared. Dino's feet entered the box and inside the box was sand. The box cover was just an illusion. Suddenly, the sand flew all up, shaped into a large DNA symbol, then the sand made a giant circle, after that the cir-BOOM! A time hole appeared right in front of us! 'Best invention, eh?' Professor Rex smiled. 'It's not the time to talk about this stuff! Now, we are about to get sucke – AAAHHH!!!' I shouted.

Inside the time hole, thousands of millions of septillion trees surrounded us. They all looked at us with curious eyes. THIS was how ancient China looked like! Hundreds of Sinosauropteryx welcomed us. Dino's parents popped out. 'Rarry Roar,' Dino explained to his parents what had happened out there in the present. They hugged their little baby tightly and thanked me for caring Dino.

'Woah!' A Mamechiasaurus with remarkably long neck appeared! Soon, the 'Dinosaur Slide' had officially been formed. Firstly, you have to climb the Mamechiasaurus to reach the top of its neck. Secondly, enjoy the amazing slide that doubles the fun, way further than the climbing!

All of a sudden, a loud rumble shook the floor, a massive creature – Yangchuanosaurus, emerged out of the woods, roaring, ‘RRROOOAAARRR!!!’ On top of it was... wait a minute! Wasn’t that Professor Rex??? ‘HAHAHA!!! I will capture all of these fellows, including your little one,’ he shouted.

I had one trick under my sleeve – The Ultimate Hotdog! The hotdog anthem started playing, ‘H-o-o-o-HOT-DOG, V-e-e-eee-R-Y YUM-MY, D-E-E-E-LICIOUS!’ ‘Ta-da! See my newest invention – The HOTDOG Cannon!!!’ ‘FIRE!!!’ All the hotdogs enveloped into the Yangchuanosaurus’ mouth. ‘Nom. MMM... slurp... RARRAR!’ it shouted. ‘OH, NO!!!!!! I’m DONE FOR...!!! HEEELLPPPP!!!’ Professor Rex screamed, as he ran for his life. The Yangchuanosaurus had changed its mind to attack Professor Rex instead! All the Sinosauropteryx and the Mamechiasaurus started to celebrate, ‘La~La~RAR! La~La~La~La~ROAR!! La~La~LA!!! Rar~Rar~ROAR!!!!!!’

As for Dino, I knew that it belonged to the Dinosaur World, so I had to say goodbye to it... for now. The time hole got summoned and I got sucked up again. I found myself with my parents at home in a minute. A few days later, my dad brought me the newspaper, and it read, ‘BREAKING NEWS! Fossilised human-like creature found in Yangchuanosaurus’s tummy!’ The whole family laughed out loud!

P.S. Still remember the time machine invented by Prof. Rex? Since it had absorbed the DNA from Dino, I can travel to the Dinosaur World anytime! Shhh... this is a little secret between you and me!

# Beyond the Waves: China's Dinosaur Island Awakens

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Lee, Long Yin Athan – 11*

Hi, I am Johnathan, an Asian teenager who lives in Siam, Thailand. Everything changed when I turned twelve. To celebrate my Primary 6 graduation, my father took the whole family for a seven-day boat trip in the South China Sea. We were doing well for the first three days and I learned some basic lifesaving skills like fishing in the ocean.

The weather was becoming bizarre that night. A massive cloud loomed overhead, drifting ominously towards us. “Rumble! Rumble! Pitter-patter, pitter-patter...”, thunder was roaring outside and torrential rain fell onto the sea water surface. Mum warned me with a solemn voice to always stay inside, while Dad was trying to leave the rain zone. However, I still went to the boat’s bow to gaze at the waves out of curiosity. All of a sudden, I was thrown out of the ship by a big wave. I shouted loudly, hoping they would notice me. Dad saw me and immediately threw me an orange life buoy. Nevertheless, our distance became farther and farther. Tears burst out of my eyes. I cried loudly, and they disappeared from my sight. At that moment, I definitely regretted ignoring her. Floating on the endless, breezy water as far as the eye can see was scary. I lost my memory since then.

The next thing that I knew was, some Aboriginal people rescued me on a random beach. Some questions then popped up in my mind, “Where am I? What are these people? Where are my parents?” Luckily, I only had a few scratches and was experiencing dizziness. I then walked along the island. Everything felt like it belonged to the ancient world as I saw ancient coins, ancient clothing, typography and other objects that could not be found in the modern world. Everything here looked primitive and everyone here appeared to be uncivilised. While exploring the island, I could not believe my eyes because ... I saw DINOSAURS! There were Zhuchengtyrannus, Agilisaurus, Ambopteryx, Analong, Shantongosaurus and many other species I had learnt about in Chinese History lessons. Zhuchengtyrannus is my favourite because of its enormous tail. I remembered my teacher once mentioned that there was a mysterious island with ancient dinosaurs at about 500 kilometres away in the southeastern direction from Dalian, Liaoning province, China and what I saw was exactly as my teacher had taught us. Some explorers tried to visit there before but ended up not coming back. There was a rumor that they all accidentally got sucked into a gigantic whirlpool in the middle of the ocean and ended up in another dimension, which is probably here. I was frightened, not sure if I could leave the island or not.

I tried to communicate with the locals. They could not understand English and reacted with confused expressions, just like something was wrong with me. I felt hopeless. After hours and hours, the sun still didn’t set. Perhaps it’s a city that never sleeps. I found a small bench to take a rest, memories of my family and me running through my head. I missed them so much! Days went by. Living on this mysterious island for a week, I found clean water and some leftover food to survive. Pterosaurs were flying over my head holding pieces of wooden sticks, dropping them all over the beach. What a scene to me! I built a fireplace and secretly lit it, producing a massive amount of black smoke to attract the attention of passing ships. If I saw a boat, I would light the fire immediately. I’d better leave this isolated island full of dangerous dinosaurs as soon as possible or I might lose my life. Sitting on the sand near where I had been rescued, I was hoping a ship would pass by. I kept praying to God. Suddenly, I heard the sound of engine. A big cargo ship was cruising towards this island. “Ah! A B...I...G cargo ship,” I shouted. I immediately gathered the wooden sticks from the **Rhamphorhynchus**, **Tropeognathus**, **Pterofrontalis**, **Jeholopterus**, **Ankylorhynchus**, **Sphenodon** ... and used a sharp wooden stick to start lighting the fire. Fortunately, it began to smoke after several minutes, a friction fire produced.

Good things do not last forever. While I was hoping the ship would notice me, a disheveled European man suddenly appeared. It scared me entirely because he made no sound of footsteps. He was walking towards me, saying “Nein! Nein!” I could scarcely hear him. “What language is that? Is it German or Dutch?” Thousands of questions

popped up in my mind. He was bending over my fire and started scooping sand onto it. I started protecting my fire or I would lose this chance. I must not waste my effort on collecting piles and piles of wood every day diligently. "My family might see the smoke, stop please!" I shouted at him. Well, it was too late. The ship gradually vanished from my sight, enveloped in the misty fog. After some communication with him in simple English, I learned that he was a traveller from Germany who loved exploring the world. He was caught in a whirlpool and transported to a parallel universe while scuba diving one day. I also shared my story with him. He suggested that we could use the dinosaurs' swimming abilities and try to enter the whirlpool again to return to the modern world.

Then, we got back to the place where I found dinosaurs. I used some food as bait to attract a Titanosaur and we ran towards the direction of the sea. We jumped onto the Titanosaur's back and made it swim. After an hour of swimming, we finally found a whirlpool out there. I pointed in that direction and we swam towards it. We held our hands and arrived at the modern world successfully. The Titanosaur was a lifesaver to us! Agilisaurus, Alectrosaurus, Anchiornis, Archaeoceratops, Archaeornithomimus...will you be the next one to rescue the missing ones on the island?

# A Tale of Dinosaur and Friendship

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Leung, Yui Hei Ethan – 9*

## *Chapter 1: The Sea*

The sea is full of mysteries, a vast expanse where creatures may suddenly emerge from the depths. One person has been waiting for this moment for a long time.

Deep beneath the surface, where it is cold and dark, a creature stirs. It is confused and only knows one thing: it must reach the surface immediately.

## *Chapter 2: It Came Out of Nowhere*

Leon, an aspiring scientist, had three great passions: surfing, music, and dinosaurs.

On a sunny morning, he made his way to Tianya Haijiao, near his home. The sunrise over the beach was breathtaking, and he loved to surf alone before anyone else awoke. His parents didn't mind; they appreciated the peace of a sleeping house.

As he arrived at the beach, he spotted a dark-haired girl across the shore. Unexpectedly intrigued, he pushed the thought aside to focus on his surf. Moments later, a chill ran down his spine as gigantic waves crashed towards him.

Turning around in fear, he saw a creature chasing something in the water. Its large gills, powerful teeth, beady eyes, and spiked tail sent a jolt of recognition through him. It was the Siflotheses, a new dinosaur species recently discovered in England. He never expected to see it in China.

To his surprise, the girl seemed unfazed. But when Leon glanced back, the dinosaur had vanished without a trace.

"What was that thing?" she asked.

Leon replied, "It was a dinosaur. If we capture it, we might become famous! Meet me at the beach at midnight; I have an idea."

## *Chapter 3: The Meet-Up*

At midnight, Leon snuck out of his house and dashed to the beach, scanning the area until he spotted the girl from earlier.

Before he could speak, she exclaimed, "Let's go find that dinosaur! I'm Luna, by the way. What's your name?"

"Leon," he replied.

"So, what's the plan?" she asked.

"We need to track down that dinosaur using technology. Are you good at science?"

"Yes, but why?" Luna responded.

"If we can build a tracking device, we can find it."

“Great! I’ve been wanting to test my inventions. Let’s work together!” Luna exclaimed.

#### *Chapter 4: The Chase*

That night, Leon created a GPS tracker designed to latch onto the dinosaur. The next morning, he hastily left a note for his parents saying he would be going to a friend’s house, then hurried to Luna’s.

She met him with her invention pack, which included a small device that could detect objects by simply typing their names.

Luna powered on the device and typed “S-i-f-l-o-t-h-o-s-e-s.” A beep confirmed the dinosaur was swimming nearby, close to an island.

With his surfboard in hand, Luna and Leon paddled out to the island. Upon arrival, they witnessed a crowd of frightened people fleeing. The dinosaur was about a football field away.

Luna pulled out her electric net and hurled it at the creature, but missed, allowing the dinosaur to escape. Suddenly, a swirling portal appeared, and the dinosaur jumped into it.

“How are we going to catch it now?” Leon asked, panic rising in his voice.

“We need more inventions! To the invention lab!” Luna declared, leaping into the portal she created.

Leon hesitated but quickly decided to follow her. The next moment, they stood in Luna’s room, which was filled with incredible inventions.

“Welcome to my invention lab!” she said, showing him around. Together, they began constructing a large, box-shaped cage designed to capture enormous creatures.

Luna checked her device and discovered the dinosaur had moved to another beach in Sanya City. Realizing they were running out of time, she activated her time machine to go back two hours to when they first encountered the Siflothoses.

They snuck behind their past selves and threw the cage, which automatically captured the dinosaur. Before they could be seen, they jumped back into the portal.

Back in the lab, they transferred the captured dinosaur into a giant glass tank, so strong it was nearly indestructible. The creature roared in frustration, but Luna quickly sedated it.

#### *Chapter 5: Save the World*

The next day, Luna and Leon’s parents watched the news report: “Two children captured the Siflothoses, a dinosaur that had escaped from England, and delivered it to the museum.” They were immensely proud of their children’s bravery and ingenuity.

In their hearts, Luna and Leon knew that if another creature emerged from the depths, they would be ready to save the world once more.

# Ken and the China Dragon Bird

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Li, Zachary – 10*

It was a scorching summer day in Ganzhou. Ken, a slender yet adventurous boy with a shock of unruly black hair and a love for exploring, was wandering through a construction site near his home. His deep-set brown eyes always seemed to be scanning for treasure. But nothing could prepare him for what he discovered that day—a massive, mud-covered egg.

At first, Ken dismissed it as a peculiar rock, but its smooth surface and faint warmth made him pause. It felt alive. Curiosity rushed through his head, Ken lugged it home, his mind racing with excitement. Little did he know, he was carrying a piece of history.

The next morning, Ken was startled awake by a sharp cracking sound as sunlight streamed through his bedroom window. The egg trembled on his desk until it split open, revealing a bizarre red beast with fiery feathers that shimmered like molten lava. Its electric blue claws sparkled like sapphires while the flaming feathers on its wings reflected light like a living flame. Its black eyes gleamed with intelligence, its electric-blue pupils glowing like tiny lightning bolts. In a flash, Ken retrieved a dusty book from his bookshelf and discovered an image of a creature which bore a striking resemblance with the one in front of him.

As Ken gasped for air, he yelled out, “You’re an Anchiornis! A... a dragon bird!” The hatchling chirped softly and nuzzled his hand. A small puff of smoke escaped as it yawned. “You breathe fire too?” Ken whispered, awestruck. Excitedly, he named it “Fei Long,” meaning “flying dragon” in Chinese.

Ken remembered how his older brother, Jun, a palaeontologist working at the Beijing Institute of Palaeontology, always lectured him about China’s extensive fossil record. Although Ken never shared Jun’s passion for rocks and bones, he was enthralled by the many remarkable dinosaur species discovered in China. Among them were the exceptionally long-necked *Dinocephalosaurus*, the rare feathered *Sinosauropteryx*, the delicate *Guanlong*, renowned for its air-filled crown-like head crest, and *Ganzhousaurus*, named after his hometown! Still, who would have thought that the living proof of these astounding discoveries would be staring him in the face?

Determined to find out more, Ken decided to take Fei Long to Jun.

Fei Long grew rapidly; its wings became stronger, and its fiery breath intensified. The once-tiny hatchling had become a magnificent creature! Fei Long ran down the fields, mimicking the take-offs Ken had seen on planes. Soon, they found themselves soaring over China’s breathtaking landscapes, from the lush, green mountains of Jiangxi to the glittering skyscrapers of Beijing.

With its advanced fossil labs and equipment, the Beijing Institute was a marvel of modern science. Jun was thrilled to see Ken and his extraordinary find. He eagerly showed him all the state-of-the-art observational and analytical equipment and the vast collection of precious specimens in the facility. The cutting-edge technology and unwavering commitment of the team of respectable palaeontologists astounded Ken to no end.

As Ken wandered through the pristine hallway outside the bathroom, an unsettling feeling suddenly washed over him. He spotted crates of fossils in the shadow of a dimly lit room, each marked with a mysterious code. The hushed whispers among the staff in the room further deepened his curiosity. Ken waited silently in the dark.

“With Fei Long’s DNA, we can create fire-breathing creatures for military use, entertainment, and even private collections.” Dr. Liang, the institute’s lead palaeontologist, spoke with an ambitious and greedy tone, “Think of the profits...”

Startled, Ken hurried over to Jun. “We must get Fei Long out of here,” Jun urged. “And expose what’s happening.” That night, under the cover of darkness, they made their escape. The brothers broke into Fei Long’s enclosure, and as soon as Fei Long sensed them, it was as if he could read their minds. It lowered itself so the brothers could climb aboard and escape together. Fei Long soared high above the Great Wall and the glittering lights of Beijing while Ken marvelled at their beauty from above, feeling a profound connection to his homeland.

With the evidence gathered by the brothers, the Chinese authorities swiftly took action against Dr. Liang. The institute overcame criticism with its hard-earned respect and received the highest recognition for its valuable research contributions, which paved the way for the establishment of a new dinosaur sanctuary and research initiative based on conservation ethics and principles. It became a beacon of hope for ethical palaeontology, attracting experts around the globe who were determined to study China's extraordinary discoveries while maintaining strict ethical standards.

As he bid farewell to Fei Long, Ken cannot help but admire the majesty of this ancient creature which bore a concrete link to a bygone era and a reminder of the incredible diversity of life that once existed. He felt a mix of sadness and pride. "You're safe now," as tears streamed down his face. Fei Long nuzzled him one last time before spreading its majestic wings and taking flight, its silhouette glowing against the rising sun.

For Ken, this once-in-a-lifetime encounter with a real dinosaur was only the beginning. He came to appreciate palaeontology was more than the study of bones and rocks; it was about resolving mysteries of the past and preserving history to ensure the wonders of the magnificent creatures like dinosaurs would continue to inspire curiosity for generations to come. In his mind, he started to imagine a future where technology could transport humans back in time to connect and interact with dinosaurs and their habitat.

Standing on the land of his beloved hometown, Ken felt an overwhelming emotion wash over him as he thought about how life had flourished millions of years ago and continued to thrive on this very piece of land. Filled with love for his country, he dreamed of following his brother's path to unearth even more prehistoric mysteries while preserving the glory and wonders of China's prehistoric past for future generations to embrace and admire.



# Escape from the Jurassic: A Winter Adventure in Jiangxi

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Loo, Chit Hay Sebastian – 11*

Ever since I read about dinosaurs in a textbook, I have been fascinated by these ancient creatures. When my best friend Peter and I learned about a study tour to visit the dinosaur museum in Jiangxi last winter, we immediately jumped at the chance.

Before we set off, my mom checked the weather forecast. "It's very cold in Jiangxi. Remember to bring heat pads," she reminded me. So, I packed plenty of them before leaving.

On the first day of our arrival, our tour guide shared fascinating facts about dinosaurs, like the notorious Tyrannosaurus Rex. We also learned about a unique Chinese friendly dinosaur called Mei, which curls into a ball for protection when sensing danger. We eagerly anticipated seeing the precious fossils of these dinosaurs the next day.

At the museum, we were buzzed with excitement as we finally had the chance to view the fossils. The guide advised us to exercise caution when walking near a large excavation pit in the middle of the museum. While I was taking photos of the fossils, Peter enjoyed the many snacks he brought along. Suddenly, a group of naughty kids tried to grab Peter's snacks and accidentally knocked him into the pit. When I tried to help Peter, I fell into the deep pit as well and passed out.

When I woke, I discovered Peter lying motionless beside me. I was bewildered to find myself in an unfamiliar place with only grass and mud in sight. I roused him, exclaiming, "Hey, Peter! We fell into the pit and ended up here!" Peter calmly replied, "Calm down, we will be fine. We just have to retrace our steps and find out how we come here. In the meantime, let's eat some snacks to regain some energy."

Suddenly, we heard thunderous footsteps behind us. We turned our heads and saw a gigantic Tyrannosaurus Rex heading towards us! Without thinking, we sprinted frantically. We were already fearing for the worst scenario when a Mei sprung up from nowhere and rescued us by curling into a ball and camouflaging us from the predator. The Tyrannosaurus Rex was unable to find us and left miserably without a meal.

When the danger subsided and the Mei had uncurled itself, I noticed that blood was flowing down Mei's leg. I took out my first-aid kit and helped bandage its wound, and the Mei nodded in appreciation. It then carried us on its back to its home, where we met other Mei of various sizes and colours. We discovered that the one that saved us was unusually large and appeared to be their leader, as the others bowed to it in respect.

After introducing us to all of its family members, Leader Mei noticed that we ran out of water and guided us to a freshwater lake. In gratitude, we shared our snacks with the Mei family. We were enjoying ourselves with food and water when we suddenly heard footsteps as loud as jet engines and ten times louder than before — a big herd of Tyrannosaurus Rex was approaching!

Leader Mei quickly instructed its family to carry their eggs to safety, but there were too many. With only sixteen Mei to carry eighteen eggs, Peter and I decided to help. We placed the remaining two eggs into our backpacks, running swiftly to keep pace with the Mei family.

As the Tyrannosaurus Rex closed in, Leader Mei devised a clever plan. It led us to a cave with an extremely narrow entrance which was only small enough for the Mei and us to go through, and it signalled us to squeeze inside. When the herd of Tyrannosaurus Rex arrived, they tried to enter the small cave restlessly. Regardless of how powerful and strong they were, they still could not get into the cave. We all breathed a sigh of relief as they finally left frustrated.

We were still congratulating ourselves on our second narrow escape when we heard strange noises coming from my backpack. I took a peep and saw the egg within my backpack beginning to hatch! It turned out that the heat pads inside my backpack had provided a cozy environment for the baby Mei to nurture and grow, and it was now ready to see the world. Eventually a cute and tiny baby Mei emerged, and we celebrated its birth with Leader Mei!

Amidst the celebration, I noticed tears coming out of Peter's eyes. "Are you hurt?" I asked. He shook his head and murmured, "I just want to go home."

Sensing our longing for going back home, Leader Mei carried us back to the grassy terrain where we first met it. We then realized that the place closely resembled the excavation pit in the dinosaur museum. All of a sudden, a bright light shone on us and completely blinded us.....

When our vision cleared, we found ourselves back at the museum, surrounded by our teachers, classmates, and staff. "You're finally awake!" exclaimed a teacher. The teacher claimed that we were found lying unconscious for an hour in the pit. When we tried to share with everybody our incredible experience after falling into the pit, our story was met with disbelief. We started to doubt it ourselves, thinking it might have been an extraordinary dream only.

As we were making our way out of the pit, something sharp pressed against my back. Out of curiosity, I reached back to find tiny greenish scales, like those shedding off a snake. Peter and I exchanged knowing smiles, pondering the mysterious adventure we shared.....

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Tong, Wai Kin Joshua – 11*

Long, long ago, the world was different from the one we know now. Some of the continents now were merged into one, a vast land with towering mountains and endless plains, Pangaea. This land was home to insects, plants and dinosaurs, huge creatures that either lived on land or flew across the blue skies. Because of the dinosaurs' size and power, they became the dominators of Pangaea.

Amongst these ancient creatures, two types of dinosaurs stood as rivals, both wishing to dominate Pangaea. The T-rex, reigned supreme. With their enormous jaws and immense size, they ruled and lived in Russia. Meanwhile, the Microraptors, with wings and a smaller size, soared freely across the skies, gliding over the mountains in China. Being a flying dinosaur, Microraptors could easily escape from the mighty T-rex's jaws. The two often argued and fought over dominance. Their battles lasted for generations, causing their lands to be bathed in blood.

The leader of the Microraptors was Xian Chi, a wise dinosaur who had thought of many plans to banish the T-rex. He had a son named Xian Wen, a shy and timid fellow who resented fighting. He always thought there was another way to stop the fighting. On the other hand, the Queen of the T-rex was very brutal and she trained her army with ferocity. Her daughter, Delian, was a curious soul who always wandered beyond the borders and the safety of her clan.

One day, when Delian was exploring the forests, Xian Wen, the Prince of the Microraptors, found her. At this time, a fight between the Microraptors and the T-rex was inevitable. However, both sides did not attack, they looked at each other carefully and curiosity drew them closer.

Soon, their meetings became more frequent. They discussed on the fighting between their families and how to stop them. In the blink of an eye, their friendship blossomed into love. Finally, under the shade of the trees, they married secretly and exchanged vows to never join the fighting.

Sadly, their happiness was short-lived. Only a few days after the wedding, Xian Chi, now full of greed to rule, launched a series of attacks at the T-rex. Xian Wen, fearing Delian's safety, begged his father, "Father, there must be another way! Must this end in bloodshed and misery?" But his father ignored his desperate pleas, "Do you not see? We must banish the T-rex so that my people will be safe and I can rule!"

The very next day, Xian Wen and Delian vanished completely without leaving a trace. Xian Chi immediately stopped the attack and sent his army to investigate. Meanwhile, the Queen of the T-rex broke into tears. A few days later, there were still no news of Xian Wen and Delian. The two rulers became nervous and depressed.

"Do you have no news of my son?" Xian Chi demanded.

"Apologies, your Majesty, I have no news of the prince."

The same conversation also occurred to the T-rex. Soon, Xian Chi became so depressed that he could not even eat. The Queen of the T-rex tossed and turned at night, finding it impossible to rest. As Xian Wen and Delian were their only descendants, they were afraid that their bloodline would end.

This tragedy turned both leaders mad. Xian Chi started praying to the Gods, "Please find my son! Please!!!" The Queen ventured far, far away in search of her beloved daughter. Sadly, both sides still did not get any news.

After a month of searching and waiting, Xian Chi gave up. He drowns in madness, thinking of all the battles he fought and the dinosaurs who died. He finally understood the pain the dead soldiers' families had to go through after he experienced it. It was unbearable and extreme torture.

The Queen of the T-rex sat under the lone moon at night, tears dropping onto the ground like raindrops. She cried, "How can I get my daughter back? Where is she?" Suddenly she stopped, there were so many who suffered the same ordeal as her, the families of the dead soldiers. They would also feel heartbroken like her. The thirst to dominate had driven her insane and she didn't even care about how many lives were lost. Then, the truth hit her, she must end this battle.

The very next day, the Queen called for a meeting with Xian Chi. The Queen compromised, "From now on, let us end the fighting." Xian Chi continued, "We see eye to eye. How about we channel our efforts together to find our children?" The King of the Triceratops, the dinosaur who had allied with Xian Chi to stop the T-rex, beamed. He pronounced, "Your Majesty, I have a surprise for you!" And there, a majestic young T-rex and a small Microraptor stood side by side, they were Xian Wen and Delian.

A month or so ago, Xian Chi heard his father and understood that it would be as impossible as reversing time to stop him. Therefore, he fled with Delian to Mongolia, where the Triceratops lived. They both hoped that their parents would understand that fighting could never get anybody anywhere, instead, many lives would be lost. When the rulers finally ended the conflicts, they appeared.

"Delian!" "Xian Wen!" The cries of joy were deafening. Both of the dinosaurs were overjoyed to be reunited with their children at last. The parents hugged their children tightly, telling them that they were now united with their former opponents. Everyone was elated.

The next morning, both families held a huge feast to celebrate Xian Wen being the new king and Delian being the new queen. The feast also celebrated and marked the end of the conflicts. Xian Wen and Delian soon became symbols of peace and love, showing us that love can make peace and violence is never the way to ending a conflict.

And finally, under Xian Wen and Delian's wise rule, the dinosaurs re-built Pangaea, fixing the battlefields. At last, Pangaea flourished again.

# The Fossil Pendant: A Gateway to Ancient Mysteries

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Tung, Yan Wang – 10*

In the bustling city of Shanghai, nestled among towering buildings and the chaos of roaring traffic, there was a primary school called Zee International School of Science and Magic. This school was the only place where modern science and mysterious magic coexisted, known to a few and hidden from the rest.

In the middle of this academic oasis, there was an eleven-year-old boy named Chen. He was unlike his fellow classmates. With an insatiable curiosity and a heart full of wonder, he found solace in his books, which spoke of ancient creatures, dinosaurs, and the mysteries of the universe. Little did he know that his life was about to change forever through a mysterious journey unknown to most people.

One peaceful afternoon, he stumbled upon an old, weathered pendant buried in autumn leaves that crunched under his shoes. It was no ordinary pendant — it bore the shape of a dragon intertwined with a feathered bird. It seemed to glow when he looked at it. Entranced by its beauty, Chen picked it up, and a strange warmth seeped through his fingers.

A voice echoed in his mind, "You have been chosen, lucky one. Guard this pendant well, for it holds a key to a forgotten world."

Chen's heart raced. "How could this be real?" he wondered. He decided to keep the pendant a secret, vowing to discover its mysteries.

Life at Chen's school continued as usual. Chen participated in class activities and science experiments. Yet, the pendant remained a reminder of the secret he harbored.

One fateful morning, he was looking at the meticulously arranged fossils in the annual fossil exhibit at school, arranged by Professor Wang, the school's resident paleontologist. Among the fossils was a replica of *Sinosauropteryx*, the first clearly feathered dinosaur found. Chen widened his eyes in excitement. Just as he was about to touch the replica, he felt the pendant vibrate. "The time has come," the voice from before whispered.

A swirl of light brought Chen to a world unlike any other he had known. He was there, standing in a prehistoric landscape, with towering trees and mountains surrounding him. He could feel the heat of the prehistoric sun, and pterosaurs soared high above him. The sight of the magnificent *Sinosauropteryx*'s feathers, which shimmered in the sun, mesmerized him.

While he was marveling at the prehistoric views, a tap on his shoulder brought him back to reality. It was Professor Wang, but not the Professor Wang he knew. This one wore ancient robes and looked younger, bearing a striking resemblance to the dragon on Chen's pendant.

"Welcome, Chen," Professor Wang greeted him with a warm smile. "You have uncovered the gateway to the past. Here, you will learn the true power of the pendant and the magic it holds."

The next few days, the ancient Professor Wang and Chen explored the prehistoric world together. They discovered numerous new species, including the gigantic titanosaur, which was larger than any other creature Chen had seen. Despite its size, the titanosaur moved with grace. Its huge neck swayed gently as it reached for the highest treetops. Chen was in awe of its strength and majesty.

That night, they sat by a roaring campfire, and Professor Wang revealed the true purpose of the pendant. "Chen, you are now the guardian of the Fossil Pendant. It is your duty to protect the knowledge of the past and ensure that it is only used for the betterment of humanity. But beware, there are those who would exploit this power for their own gain."

Chen nodded solemnly, understanding the gravity of his new responsibility, and vowed to protect the pendant's legacy.

With a final wave of Professor Wang's hand, Chen was transported back to the present day. The familiar sights and sounds greeted him, yet he knew that his life was forever changed. He returned to his daily routines with a sense of newfound purpose.

The pendant served as a reminder of the incredible journey he had undertaken. Whenever he touched it, he would be immediately brought back to the memory of that extraordinary experience. Chen continued with his studies and excelled in both magic and science. He shared his knowledge with his classmates, encouraging them to dream big and explore the mysteries of the world.

Little did they know that the boy with the fossil pendant was actually a guardian of a magical legacy of humanity, destined to discover the wonders of the past and shape the future.

In the end, Chen realized that magic and modern science are actually two sides of the same coin, each enriching the other in ways that words could hardly describe. As he looked to the horizon, he knew that countless adventures awaited him, filled with modern discoveries, ancient mysteries, and the intangible magic that makes life extraordinary.

# The Great Battle

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Wong, Yik Fung Hayden – 9*

What type of dinosaurs was that?” I asked Andric.

My best friend rolled his eyes and walked away from me. To him it was the most obvious question. It was a *dinocephalosaurus orientalis* from the triassic period. Andric was a smart guy but he went short fused quite easily.

“OK! I should have read about those dinos before the visit, but you know they bore me to death. If there were a gaming app featuring dinosaurs, I promise I would learn fast,” I confessed.

“There aren’t any intriguing games about dinosaurs, but I’m taking classes in coding. Maybe I can write one. Let’s get Samuel to do one as he’s with me in coding class as well,” suggested Andric.

Two weeks passed, and Andric had the game prepared for us. But Samuel, being a big forgetful head, unsurprisingly, forgot to make any progress on his own game. Andric complained, but he went through the rules of his game and then grabbed his console to join us, daring us to beat him at his creation. As Andric understood I knew nothing about dinosaurs, he explained to me that the three dinosaurs in the first stage.

“*Eustreptospondylus Oxoniensis* (Eustrap) came from Europe and fed on smaller dinosaurs. T-Rex was from North America with a bi...” Andric detailed.

“Oh, cut that out! Everyone knows about T-Rex. What is that sickly looking creature?” I interrupted rudely.

“That is China’s representative, the *ambopteryx longibrachium*this (Ambo) from the Triassic Period. It was a tree climber,” Andric explained on.

Both Samuel and I jeered at that pitiful tree climber. Its long tail and two pathetic wings wouldn’t help in fighting at all. It was tiny too. We didn’t understand why it was classified as a dinosaur at all. Everyone wanted to choose T-Rex and complained that Ambo was a feeble creature. I criticized Andric for being so obvious with the results, but he just shrugged and replied, “Well, this game was made for teamwork and teaming together to destroy each other.” Both Samuel and I sighed at Andric’s view of action fighting games, but it was his game. Dinosaurs were picked and the game was set.

To set the stage, the T-Rex roared like thunder and the ground shook with fear. Eustrap and Ambo hesitated for a moment. He came charging at us at 30mph but Samuel’s Eustrap and my Ambo froze. T-Rex couldn’t see us as it was blind to stationary things. Adjusting his strategies, Andric agreed to team up with Samuel and kill me before they went on a 1v1 lock on.

As soon as the deal was finalized, they pounced towards me and circled me slowly, closing in inch by inch. Andric, being Andric, got impatient and lunged. I took off but not before he had my right leg in his humongous mouth. I tried to tear myself away, but his teeth just sank in deeper. The pain was agonising. Then my leg was whipped off. The right side of my body became numb before the pain went burning through my body to the tip of my toes.

Suddenly, it started pouring. Thunder shook the ground and lightning flashed its sabre. T-Rex and Eustrap dived left and right to avoid nature’s fury but I was too weak to move.

I was half dead. Ambo was lying on the ground, heaving. He couldn’t even move the tiniest of muscles and his lungs were collapsing. There was a teeny tiny moment that its heart stopped. Suddenly, Ambo got hit by a bolt of lightning.

I actually felt the screen shudder. An electric current ran through every vein in my body. Then, Ambo’s eyes opened again. It grew five colourful tails and changed from brown to bright yellow. Slowly, it stood up and miraculously, its leg was healed.

Most surprisingly, it was twice as big, standing tall, proud and elegant. My eyes grew wide and I gasped at this change. Then, I realized it was a phoenix from Chinese mythology.

My phoenix took to the skies. Losing no time, I snatched up the controls and flew back to the battlefield, where I saw the T-Rex destroying, taking everything slowly, enjoying the pleasure of killing Eustrap. Eustrap was badly wounded. It could bleed to death any moment. I flew in to aid him. But before I could do anything, the T-Rex flipped him high in the air and ate him in one bite. I thought that was strange, as they had agreed to take me down before taking down each other. However, as I thought of it, I came to an understanding that they thought I must have been killed by the lightning and went 1v1. With the element of surprise on my side, I took my chance while Andric was still cheering and calling us losers. I slashed his T-Rex's neck and head swiftly and the beast fell with one final roar.

I then announced to Andric, "Stop cheering! I am the one to be cheering. Look at the screen, will you, dumbhead?"

He looked at the screen, expecting to see "YOU WIN!" but he didn't. All he saw was, "You were slayed by Hyp3rx Hayden. Better luck next time."

"How? You were struck by lightning! You were supposed to die! This is so unfair! I didn't program the game this way!"

I programmed it so that if anybody was struck by lightning, they would die," Andric protested.

"You created an unfair game, now it is time to have a taste of your own medicine!" His jaw dropped and I declared triumphantly, 'Roasted by a five star roast! Womp! Womp!' I snickered and high-fived with Samuel.



## New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Wong, Yik Hin Alvis – 11*

It was a regular day for Alex. He hurriedly ran up to the mining site where he worked everyday, hoping to find a rare fossil or some valuable treasure. While he was mining, he found a piece of rock that looked very odd. He quickly grabbed his hammer, and with one swift swing, he cracked it open. When he looked inside, he was disappointed to find nothing but dirt and some loose rocks.

Alex was just an ordinary worker with a low salary and poor working conditions. He had always dreamed of becoming a palaeontologist, as he had nurtured a burning passion for dinosaurs ever since he was little. Determined to make his dream come true, he worked hard, studying every day from morning until night. Before long, he successfully landed a job as a palaeontologist at a local laboratory. Although it wasn't a big company, Alex gratefully accepted the position and resolved to do his very best.

Not long after, Alex received his first assignment: to hike up a mountain and search for fossils and rare dinosaur bones. His heart raced with excitement as he cracked rocks left and right. Although he didn't find anything on his first day, he was still elated to finally pursue his dream career.

While exploring the mountain, he stumbled upon a cave he had never seen before. Intrigued, he decided to enter, hoping to find something extraordinary. He mined deeper into the cave, and suddenly, he discovered an oddly shaped footprint. It didn't look like an ordinary footprint—it had seven toes, and the paw was shaped like a flower. He shone his flashlight on it, trying to get a clearer look. But as he ventured further, he found more and more of these peculiar footprints, forming a trail. Curious and a little nervous, he decided to follow them.

Suddenly, as Alex was following the footprints, he slipped and fell into a massive hole. He wailed loudly in fear as he tumbled down, and then, to his surprise, he came to a complete stop. He was on the ground. "But this doesn't make sense," Alex thought to himself. "Why is there ground when I fell through the ground?"

When he opened his eyes, he was stunned. Before him lay an underground world with dead flowers and water that was murky and dark. Alex was frozen in amazement.

Right in front of him stood an ancient plant that had been extinct for millions of years. Overwhelmed, Alex ran over to the plant and tried to take pictures with his phone, only to realize there was no signal. Undeterred, he decided to explore this hidden utopia. He walked, then ran, when suddenly he saw a large silhouette behind a massive boulder. It looked like a dinosaur.

Curiosity got the better of him, and he peeked behind the boulder. To his amazement, there it was—a living, breathing dinosaur. Its skin was green and rough, resembling the texture of a starfish. Its eyes were a stunning shade of blue, reflecting the hauntingly beautiful scenery around them. Alex's heart raced with excitement. He quickly analyzed the dinosaur and determined that it was a Titanosaur, a prehistoric giant that roamed the Earth millions of years ago.

The dinosaur, however, was scared and backed away, hiding behind the large boulder. Alex approached slowly, speaking gently to comfort it. His efforts worked, and soon the dinosaur relaxed. To Alex's astonishment, the Titanosaur led him to a small wooden hut, where a group of other Titanosaurs was gathered. Alex's mind raced as he tried to process what he was seeing. Why were they hiding in this underground cave?

He decided to ask the dinosaurs, and they pointed toward the entrance of the cave, mimicking a huge explosion. Alex quickly understood what they were trying to say—it was the meteor that caused the extinction of the dinosaurs millions of years ago. These dinosaurs had been intelligent enough to take cover, hiding underground to survive.

Overwhelmed by this discovery, Alex ran out of the cave to inform his boss. However, when he explained what he had found, his boss didn't believe him. There was no way, he claimed, that dinosaurs could still exist in the modern world. Furious and disheartened, Alex was told to get back to work.

But Alex wasn't willing to give up. Determined to help the dinosaurs, he came up with a brilliant idea: to create a new home for them, one with clean water and plenty of food. To achieve this, he needed a lot of resources. So, he began to save money, working tirelessly for over a year to accomplish his goal.

With his savings, Alex purchased a piece of farmland where the dinosaurs could live. He also bought thick, sturdy wooden planks to build a fence around the land, ensuring their safety. Once everything was ready, Alex returned to the cave and led the dinosaurs out of their musty underground sanctuary to their new, open home.

The dinosaurs purred with happiness as they explored their new environment. Alex watched, satisfied with what he had accomplished. He fed them regularly, providing fresh food and water, and treated them like beloved pets.

Although no one else knew about the dinosaurs, Alex didn't want to tell anyone. He wanted to keep this secret and live with the dinosaurs for as long as possible. After all, this was his dream—to befriend dinosaurs, bond with them, and live alongside them in harmony.

# My Dream of Ancient Dinosaurs

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Yip, Ho Hin Shawn – 9*

Even though China is less well-explored by paleontologists, they have still found a lot of dinosaur fossils. For I think that they have found skeletal remains of an ankylosaurus.

We all know dinosaurs went extinct. The only remains were their bones as known as fossils. They struggled to find food because animals would hide from them some of the dinosaurs died from starving. Besides, dinosaurs went extinct because of meteors from space that caused fire. The fire burnt their skin and meat, only their bones were left.

One day, I read a book about dinosaurs. I felt tired and fell asleep. I had a dream that I was in a world with dinosaurs. There, I met a dinosaur. His name was 'Ba'. He introduced me to his family and friends.

Ba was an ancient ankylosaurus. He had a long neck and a coat of faded green scales. His voice was deep, and he had a scar on his face. He told young dinosaur stories of his past. His friend Lian, a young ankylosaurus, had a short neck and a coat of green scales. His voice is soft, and he told bedtime stories to baby dinosaurs.

Ba's wife, Vika, was also an ankylosaurus, but she had dark blue scales instead of green. She still had a long neck. She had a job which was hunting animals. It was very hard to hunt, therefore the food there was very expensive. However, she still could make a lot of money. Her son, Mot, was very smart. He taught his mother how to easily find animals and hunt them as their prey. All the money that Vika gained was all through Mot's help. His parents were very proud of him.

Unfortunately, Vika's daughter wasn't the brightest. She wasn't that smart, but Vika still taught her to be smarter. It did help but not a lot. Mot decided to teach his sister. It worked out and they were both very smart. Nothing could ruin their happy family life.

Mot had a friend. His name was Tom. Mot became friends with him because Mot was the opposite of Tom. They always play together. Later, Mot realized that Tom was his father's friend, Lian's son. They were so surprised that they had become that close to each other. Ever since that day, they would usually find time to play together.

Suddenly, I heard a loud voice that screamed 'Wake up!' I was confused and I asked Ba if he could hear it. He said no. The voice got louder and louder until I woke up and realized it was just a dream. After that dream, I thought about the life of dinosaurs. What could they enjoy throughout their life? What could they learn throughout their life? What did they like to do? Mostly, what do I think of them?

Dinosaurs could always enjoy the view if they live near the ocean. Dinosaurs which lived in nature could always enjoy hot weather or fresh air. They had a good life before they went extinct. However, dinosaurs would fear the ancient dinosaurs, Giganotosaurus, the biggest dinosaurs. Dinosaurs love to eat. Some eat plants, some eat meat, some eat both, but most dinosaurs eat plants.....

In the end, I really want to see a dinosaur, but I can't. I hope I can travel back in time to see all the different species of them. Even though I know it is impossible to do so, I can still read more books about dinosaurs to gain more information about them, and I can visit museums about dinosaur fossils.

# Jurassic Misadventures: From Grassland to Glassland

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Yu, Ernest – 9*

Back in the Jurassic Age, there was a clan of dinosaurs living peacefully on a grassland in central China. Majority of them were feathered with wings and humans called them Sinosauropteryx. However, there were two extraordinary ones called An An & Ke Ke. They were huge, in black and white, without any wings but with two pairs of giant legs enabling them to run extremely fast. They could also speak human language. Although An An and Ke Ke wanted to live on the grassland happily ever after, they found themselves on the run as all the Sinosauropteryx disliked them because of their weird appearance and humans believed that eating their meat could enhance their speaking ability.

“We can’t keep running forever, An An!” Ke Ke huffed, ducking under a bush. “I don’t even know what these humans want with us!”

“I don’t know either but I am sure I don’t want to let these overgrown monkeys take me down!” An An growled. He waved his small arms as he wished he could have wings like other Sinosauropteryx so that he could fly up to the sky. But he could only keep running as fast as he could with his giant legs. He glanced over his shoulder, “Look! There’s a cave! Let’s hide in there!”

The pair ran into the unknown depths of the cave. Inside, it was filled with cool air and strange noise.

“What’s that?” Ke Ke whispered.

“Who cares? It doesn’t matter as long as the humans can’t find us,” An An muttered, collapsing against a rock. He just wanted to get some sleep.

The noise grew louder and louder. Suddenly, a brilliant light swallowed them. The ground under their feet vanished and they were pulled into a deep hole.

When the light faded, An An and Ke Ke found themselves in the woods. They blinked in confusion as the sound of clashing swords and shouting filled the air. They suddenly realized that they had entered into the battle between the Three Kingdoms in the Eastern Han dynasty.

“What’s going on? I’m not ready to be dinosaur stew yet!” Ke Ke yelled in panic.

Before they could regain their senses, Liu Bei, Guan Yu, and Zhang Fei jumped out from the trees.

“What strange beasts are they?” Zhang Fei bellowed, raising his sword.

“Strange, indeed,” Guan Yu murmured, stroking his long beard. “But they seem... majestic.”

Liu Bei, the eldest, approached with a calm smile.

“They could be useful in battle. Look at their huge legs! Perfect as the largest warhorses we’ve ever seen!”

An An snorted, “Did he just call me a horse?”

Ke Ke laughed. “Well, you do have four legs.”

Before An An could further say anything, Liu Bei climbed onto An An. Surprisingly, it fit quite comfortably, and Guan Yu got on Ke Ke, too. Obviously, two dinosaurs for three people were not enough. Zhang Fei started yelling at his companions, demanding for his own special warhorse.

“Hey! What about me? I can’t just walk into battle!”

“I’m the oldest, so I shall keep my horse!” Liu Bei said proudly.

Guan Yu, afraid of losing his new super warhorse, quickly defended himself, “I am the best in swordplay! Of course I deserve a special horse to fight!”

“THAT’S UNFAIR!!! WHERE IS MY WARHORSE???” Zhang Fei hollered.

An An and Ke Ke knew well that they would become dead dinosaur meat if they were to be wardinosaurs. As the brothers focused on arguing, An An and Ke Ke shook Liu Bei and Guan Yu off their backs and snuck away. They ran and ran. Finally, they saw an open spiral on a tree trunk and jumped inside immediately.

The dinosaurs were swept by a strong current until the portal opened again. They fell right into the main palace of the Forbidden City in Qing dynasty.

“CLANG!” Ke Ke knocked over an exquisite piece of Qing porcelain vase that Emperor Qianlong was admiring and followed by An An who fell onto the emperor’s dragon throne and squeezed Emperor Qianlong onto the floor.

“What are these creatures?” Emperor Qianlong shouted in fear. The royal army marched in with spears and bows.

“Capture these beasts!”

“Why are humans always chasing us?” Ke Ke roared, dodging an arrow.

Suddenly, two young princesses peeked out from a curtain behind Emperor Qianlong.

“Wait!” one cried. “They’re so adorable!”

An An blinked. “Adorable?”

The princesses clapped their hands in delight. “Can we keep them as pets, Dad?”

“Absolutely not! Guards, catch these beasts at once!” Emperor Qianlong ranted.

An An and Ke Ke exchanged a glance.

“Time to run?” Ke Ke asked.

“Time to run!” An An agreed.

The pair fled through the palace gardens, jumped onto the brick paths of the Great Wall of China and running in huge steps. The bricks shook and behind them, the princesses shouted, “Come back, Cuties!” As An An and Ke Ke ran for their lives, a portal came under their feet, just in time to save them from the Qing army.

When they opened their eyes again, they found themselves in an unfamiliar glass caging zone with bright lights all around. People gathered around, pointing and cheering.

“Look, it’s An An and Ke Ke!” one shouted. “They’re so lovely!” another exclaimed. The caretaker placed a basket of bamboo into the zone.

“Ew! This smells awful!” An An muttered. “I’m a dinosaur, not a panda!”

“Just eat it,” Ke Ke urged. The crowd cheered as Ke Ke munched on the bamboo. An An sighed and followed suit.

Meanwhile, the people called out cheerfully, “An An! Ke Ke! Our new species of pandas, the stars of today’s Ocean Park!” “Wow, their legs are so huge, what a special species of pandas we’ve ever seen!”

The two black and white dinosaurs became the stars of the panda exhibit, adored by visitors who had no clue they weren’t pandas at all.

And...they started loving bamboos and lived in this *glassland* happily ever after!

# New Tales Of China Dinosaurs

*St. Margaret's Coeducational English Secondary and Primary School, Liz, Penarotti – 9*

This is a story of a Dino park owned by a mad scientist named Dr. Alfred Chi. In his childhood, Alfred loved playing with dino toys all the time.

Because of that, he did not have many friends, as the other kids soon got bored of playing only with dinosaurs. However, Alfred didn't care; as long as he had his dinos, he was happy. His favorite class was science because he could learn about dinosaurs. His essays and favorite books were also about them.

He could not wait to get to university to study paleontology.

Years passed, and during his studies at university, he developed a strange idea of creating a Dino park—something that would look like a zoo but with dinosaurs.

Many of his teachers said it was impossible and told him to stop dreaming, but Alfred did the exact opposite. He spent his time studying cloning and DNA. At night, he would break into the university lab and experiment with his theories.

After many trials, he finally developed a way to clone a dinosaur from a fossil.

He was amazed: he cloned a Microceratops, a herbivore from the ceratopsian family that lived in the late Cretaceous era in China. The dino was about half a meter long and the height of a small dog. Dr. Chi carried his Microceratops in a terrarium everywhere.

Once, one of his colleagues asked, “Hey, Alfred, why are you carrying this iguana around?”

Alfred replied, “Well, Dr. Zhao, I have to tell you a secret. I managed to clone a Microceratops from a fossil.” Dr. Zhao was very curious about how Dr. Chi achieved that and asked many questions.

However, Dr. Zhao was unable to keep the secret, and during lunch at the university cafeteria, he let it slip that Dr. Chi had been using the lab at night for secret research.

The next night, a university committee caught Dr. Chi inside the lab doing research without permission, and he was expelled from the university that same night.

Dr. Chi tried to explain his research and success. He had a clone of a dinosaur, but they didn't listen; he was banned from the academic world. He felt he was not treated fairly and was now isolated and unable to continue his research.

From that day on, he became the EVIL DR. CHI. He would break into university labs, companies, and museums, stealing precious materials, fossils, and equipment to continue his research.

In a few years, Dr. Chi had cloned several small dinosaurs, such as Agilisaurus, Archaeoceratops, and Confuciusornis. He then purchased a large piece of land in a desert area in northern China near the border with Mongolia and put his dream of creating a Dino park into practice.

Over the years, the park grew larger, and Dr. Chi started collecting many dinosaurs that lived in China from multiple periods, from the Jurassic to the Cretaceous eras.

At this point, Chi developed technology to reproduce even larger herbivores like Datousaurus, Mamenchisaurus, and Yimenosaurus. The Datousaurus lived during the middle Jurassic era and was about 15 meters long, with bony plates on its back.

The Mamenchisaurus was a giant, famous for having one of the longest necks of any dinosaur. It lived during the late Jurassic era and had a long tail that helped balance its massive body, which was about 21 meters long.

The Yimenosaurus also lived during the middle Jurassic era; it had scaled skin to protect its body and lived in herds. It was about 6 meters long and fed on low-lying vegetation. Dr. Chi needed help and hired people who also loved dinosaurs. Over time, he assembled a team of specialists who helped him create his childhood dream; The Dino Park.

Now, he decided to open his park to the public so that children from all over the world could visit and see dinosaurs living in nature.

The park featured only herbivores because it was too dangerous to control carnivores, but that didn't matter; children were fascinated by all of them.

Dr. Chi became famous for being the first human to clone dinosaurs and made it possible for dinosaurs to coexist with humans for the first time.

# New Tales Of China Dinosaurs

*St. Margaret's Coeducational English Secondary and Primary School, Reyansh, Gunisetty – 9*

Kai was a curious little boy, born to a Chinese palaeontologist. Throughout his childhood, he spent his summer holidays traveling with his father to various dinosaur excavation sites. Kai grew up with aspirations to discover more dinosaur species in his home country, China. To fulfil this aspiration, he studied zoology and the history of dinosaurs.

Over the next 20 years, he led many expeditions on dinosaur fossils in China. He is credited with the discovery of more than 10 new species, all in China. The following is a fictional account of two of his weirdest dinosaur expeditions.

After finishing college, Kai took a long cruise holiday and landed at the port of Dalian. He wanted to begin his dinosaur expedition from the famed fossil site in Liaoning province, where fossils older than 110 million years were found. This area had many big and small lakes, with a warm climate that enabled the growth of abundant species of plants and animals, including dinosaurs. Unfortunately, all life ended due to volcanic eruptions, earning the phrase "Mesozoic Pompeii."

After digging and exploring for four weeks, Kai came across a very peculiar dinosaur fossil, the largest ever found in Liaoning. Fine particles of ash preserved even the soft tissues of this particular dinosaur, including the contents of its last supper. To his surprise, he found both plant and meat chunks in the stomach. He realized that he had discovered the world's first species of dinosaur that ate both plants and meat; therefore, he named it Omnivorosaurus.

After resting for a few months, Kai embarked on his next adventure. This time, he travelled to the Lufeng dinosaur fossil quarry. He suspected that some of the world's largest dinosaurs, bigger than the Sauropod and Titanosaurus, were yet to be discovered. He was proven right when he found a fossil of a foot that was the largest ever. The biggest dinosaurs known were around 38 meters in length and weighed around 60 tonnes. Estimating the dinosaur's size based on the foot fossil, he estimated this new dinosaur to weigh more than 80 tonnes and be longer than 45 meters.

A few weeks later, he came across fossils of Omnivorosaurus in Yunnan province, but their features were bigger, leading him to suspect that the large dinosaur was a distant evolved cousin of the Omnivorosaurus.

One night, there was a landslide near his camp that revealed a previously unexplored area of fossils. Digging carefully, he discovered the world's biggest dinosaur and named it—THE YUNNANO–HUMUNGO–JUMBO–SAURUS.



# New Tales Of China Dinosaurs

*St. Margaret's Coeducational English Secondary and Primary School, Ng, Wayne – 9*

As a passionate palaeontologist, the thrill of discovery had always driven me. This year, a call from my best friend Sam took me to the remote regions of Liaoning Province in China, where the fossilized remains of the Sinosauropteryx were reported to lay buried in ancient sediment. I could barely contain my excitement as I boarded the plane. The Sinosauropteryx, known for its distinctive downy feathers, had already revolutionised our understanding of the link between dinosaurs and birds. I had spent years so far, studying its anatomy and behaviour, and now I was ready to see the real thing! The anticipation of unearthing the first feathered dinosaur was exhilarating!

“Hello, Dr Wayne. Welcome to the heart of China!” a man with a croaky voice said. Upon landing in Shenyang, I was greeted by the local guide, Matthias, a seasoned palaeontologist himself. Together, we travelled to a small village near the excavation site. The landscape along the way was breathtaking, with sprawling mountains and lush forests.

As we drove deeper into the countryside, Matthias started telling me all sorts of Chinese myths and rumours about missing scientists. “Nestled deep in the Eastern suburbs of Benxi lies a place called the “Spirit of the Thousand Water Cave. It is a large-scale underground river karst cave that was formed millions of years ago. It is also the legendary layer of the dragons...”

As I was trying to digest what he was saying, our car hit a big bump on the side of a steep hill and sprung into mid-air! I saw everything fly around the inside of the car, and the next second, everything spiralled out of control...

“Somebody, help!” a shout echoed in the total darkness. I recognised the voice was none other than Sam’s! As soon as Matthias turned on the headlights of the car, we found ourselves hanging in between some spectacular stalactite formations. Sam reached out and tried to pull me out of the car, but he lost his balance when a hand gripped his left foot. “Argh!” he screamed, but the sound was muffled by a big splash. Matthias apologised for making Sam fall into one of the underground lakes. I finally managed to crawl out of the car but, within a matter of seconds, it tilted sideways, dived into another dry cave and smashed into pieces!

When I turned around to check if Sam was okay, I found a large bird emerging from the water. My heart raced as the bird growled. It stood approximately 5-feet tall and it was a life-sized Aetheraptor! It was covered with a coat of very delicate feathers, and a light reddish banded trail was also visible along its back. I felt a strange sensation when our gaze is met, ranging first from astonishment to the biggest shock. “Sam?” I muttered. The Aetheraptor nodded with its watery eyes.

“Woah! Look at what I found! I’m going to capture you alive and become a zillionaire!” Matthias started crying hysterically without warning. He lunged at Sam with force of a rhino, but luckily Sam jumped out of the way just in time.

“Stop it, Matt! I will never let you hurt him!” I leapt and landed hard atop him. “Out of my way!” Matthias shouted. Armed with tools and a gun, Matthias wreaked havoc across the excavation site. I was hiding and running for cover as he chased after us. Just when I heard him fire another bullet, Sam came to my rescue and lifted me up from the ground. He carried me on his back and soared into the sky with his wings. As Matthias directed his gun towards us, Sam dodged it in the nick of time and kicked him back to the water cave.

I cannot remember for how long we flew, only the searing pain in both of my arms and the desire for survival which kept us moving even when the sun dropped below the horizon. Later, after several meticulous examinations, I was finally discharged from the hospital. As I packed up my equipment for the journey home, I felt a bittersweet pang. I knew for certain that the transfiguration was not magic, just another piece of the puzzle connecting our past to the present. I knew this was just a beginning of many more adventures to come!

# Dino Discovery at the Beach

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Chin, Annie Sze Wing – 9*

One perfect Sunday morning, my family and I woke up with excitement as we set off for a trip to China today. China. After enjoying a delightful breakfast of fluffy pancakes smothered in strawberry jam, we dressed and packed our bags. We packed torches, clothes, snacks, a picnic mat, plates and shovels with brushes so we could play at the beach after our picnic lunch.

We embarked on our journey by taking the shuttle bus to Tai Wai and then the MTR to the border. When we reached China, we immediately boarded a bus that whisked us away to our picnic spot. We ate sandwiches, fruits, cookies, cakes and jelly on the picnic mat under the blazing hot sun. It was delicious and refreshing.

Following our satisfying meal, we headed to the beach. When we reached there, we sat down on the soft sand. My brother and I built sandcastles and a towering sand mountain, which was nearly taller than me. Then we had a sandcastle competition, my brother and I won the competition because ours could stand for a minute but Dad's sandcastle could only stand for 30 seconds. Dad took his defeat in good humour.

After having fun in the sand, I said to Dad, "Can we go to take a dip in the ocean?" Dad said, "Ok, be safe! Have fun!" With his consent, we waded into the waves, I could feel the waves rushing towards me. Suddenly, I stepped on something slippery and hard beneath the water's surface. I looked under the water and saw a rock with a massive picture of a flipper. I called Dad over, "Dad, come over here, I found a rock that has a picture of a gigantic flipper!" Dad ran over excitedly and said, "It may be a dinosaur. And soon, we found the other fossilised body parts nearby.

I named that dinosaur "Jade" because its eyes looked like precious jade stones. Finally, we had an idea what to do. We dug out the fossils carefully and put them out. Then I rebuilt them into a dinosaur statue and used coarse sand to make sure it didn't tumble down. I ran down to the shore to pick up some seashells from the sea. I got a handful of seashells and gave them to Dad. We used them to decorate the fossil by putting them around it and on its body. Meanwhile, my brother took a piece of paper and wrote down the dinosaur's name "Jade" and stuck it at the bottom of the fossil with tape. I also used my brush to make sure it was all cleaned and beautiful. When we were done, the dinosaur was gleaming in the sunshine. It was stunning! Many people at the beach realised what we had built and came forward to compliment and took photos with "Jade".

Word of the dinosaur statue spread quickly, drawing crowds of admirers to the beach to witness the stunning sight until today.

As the day came to an end, we took the MTR and went back to Hong Kong. When we got home, we fell asleep. We had so much fun with our adventure today and I hope to have more of these wonderful discoveries in the future.

# A Volertops Dinosaur Fossil

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Choi, Hoi Nam – 11*

Hi, diary!

Sorry for not jotting down my thoughts lately. School's been a rollercoaster, especially with our recent school trip in China. Guess what? I found a dinosaur fossil during the trip! I mean, how crazy is that? I didn't even believe my eyes. Everyone was speechless and just as stunned as me. I suppose I should spill all the beans, right?

It all started when we went to Gobi Desert. That place was like an oven! After a sweaty half-hour trek, we took a break. I wanted to build a sandcastle without water. I dug some sand out and piled them up. I kept doing the same steps. Unexpectedly, bam! I hit something hard like a rock. I thought that it was just an ordinary rock that was blocking the way. I tried pulling it out, but it was harder than I thought. I didn't want to waste my time on that rock so I dug a hole next to it. To my surprise, there was another rock down there which was also hard to pull. I dug another hole and the result was same. Another hard rock that was hard to pull. Then, I dug the sand that were between the holes out. That was when I found out that they were actually bones of a dinosaur. Unbelievable! I quickly told the teacher about it and she came to take a close look. She rubbed her eyes and said, "Am I seeing things? Is this my imagination? Can you guys see that? It's a bone of a dinosaur!" Everyone came and took a look. Some student even took pictures of it. The teacher then called the police.

An hour later, the police arrived with some men. I think they are some experts in dinosaur fossils. They told us that they could handle it themselves and we could leave. They promised to keep us in the loop. On the way back to Hong Kong, the teacher told us about dinosaur fossils. Everyone was thrilled.

I got back home and told Mom and Dad. They said that they already knew. I was confused and curious. They pointed at the table. I was speechless. The news was already on the front page of the newspaper. It even mentioned my school and my name. It even had an enormous photo of me and the experts on the cover. I looked weird!

About a week later, the school emailed me and said that it was fossil of a volertops. It was an extremely rare dinosaur. Only two of their fossils were found before. It became a popular topic to discuss. Everyone was gossiping about it. In the meantime, the school told me to do a report about what happened. They told me to make it as detailed as possible. They even told me to do a presentation about it. Luckily I like doing presentations or speeches. The only hard bit for me is to make a PowerPoint. Good thing I took a bunch of photos. I even got a secret weapon. Guess what? I filmed a video of me interviewing the experts. They told me a lot about fossils. I also took down notes.

Well, it's getting late now. I suppose that I should go to sleep. I will talk to you again tomorrow. Good night.

# Orochi – A Tale of Discovery and Legacy

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Ip, Hei Nam Nammie – 10*

One sunny day, at Hyacinth Palaeontologists Office. Yuki was working on a project related to if humans could clone dinosaurs when her energetic sister, Hana came bursting into the room.

‘Hana! What did I say about knocking?’

‘It’s the year 2024 and humans still can’t clone dinosaur. How do we explain this to the world?’ Hana answered aloud.

‘Sigh... Hana, we’ll figure this out. Now, can you kindly leave my office?’ Yuki asked.

‘Alright, Alright, I’ll go, but hey! I have to show you something, it’s from my desk drawer.’

‘Alright, what is it... What? Isn’t that... the letter from Grandma?’ Yuki muttered, but she decided to ignore her instincts and read the mysterious parchment of what Hana found.

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*The Orochi (August 2 2020)*

Hello, I’m one of the palaeontologists of China and I just discovered an unknown fossil that should belong to a new dinosaur, to prove that my discovery is made and true, I am now writing a document to you, Chairman Chap of the People’s Republic of China. Things are going to get very complicated, so please try and hear me out.

The dinosaur I found is a hybrid dinosaur in which is a mix of Plesiosaur and it has wings of a Pteranodon, with a height of ten meters. However, what surprised me was the creature’s body, it has a high resemblance to an “orochi” (an orochi is a snake-like animal according to Japanese mythology) , this is also how the creature got its name. This was how my team of palaeontologists portrayed its looks. Let me tell you where we found the remains of the Orochi, that is the land of Guilin. I have quite a reason to believe why it chose this place.

According to my discoveries, the Plesiosaur lives in water, and since the Orochi is a half breed, it won’t be a doubt that it chose to settle in Guilin, after all it has a rich supply of water, there aren’t any other dinosaurs different from their breed; it concludes that the Orochi is a herbivore. I infer the Orochi is a group life dinosaur because the fossils of the Orochi were found mainly in groups together.

I also have reason to believe that the Orochi is a kind and sweet dinosaur, since there are no species that are threats to them. Why? That is because even though the T-Rex and other dangerous dinosaurs exist with them, the Orochi’s enormous size and that it travels with a pack is terrifying to other dinosaurs, the Orochi also has a bewitching scream, something like a elephant screaming while its strangled.

The Orochi might have been wiped out in the asteroid impact in Guilin. (The asteroid was the same asteroid who killed all dinosaurs and made a huge crater in Mexico ) But, broken into nations, it is highly possible that it could have teammates to check in other places out China to see if there are any more remains of the Orochi.

Well, Chairman Chap, during this investigation, I had been told that I had been infected by cancer and will be dying very soon, I have left this task for my teammates to finish, I guess this will be our last chance to bid farewell, goodbye, Chairman Chap.

*Nammie Ip, 2020*

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The sisters were left in shock about their grandmother's letter and felt pity and grief for their grandmother who wasn't able to finish her investigation before she died, 'Nee-san, Grandma may have not been able to make her investigation public, but we can!' Hana said in pity. 'Your right, I'll start working on a piece of letter and send it to Chairman Chap, maybe he can support us!'

And so, they spent 12 years of research to validate the Orochi's existence, and their hard work bore fruit. Now, the Orochi is an official member of the dinosaurs! And it gets better, the Orochi is also called "Nammie" in honour of the palaeontologist's hard work.

*2043, March 12*

'Hmm, What's this?' Yano thought.

'I guess history always repeats itself.' A voice broke from the shadows.

'Now, now, child. I have a reason to be here. You are my descendant, and as your ancestor, I have to teach you something.' The shadow said.

'But, I know nothing about you! I can't help you even if I wanted to.'

'Go in the direction of the Sakura bonsai tree, there is a place where I keep my documents. Go in there and get the file.'

# Secrets of the Celestialosaurus

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Ip, Man Ka – 11*

Once upon a time, in a small village nestled in the lush hills of China, a group of young explorers stumbled upon a remarkable and unforgettable discovery that would change their lives forever.

It all began on a sunny Saturday morning when Hanni, a curious 10-years-old with a wild imagination, gathered her friends, Haerin and Minji, for an adventure in the nearby forest.

'Let's go on a treasure hunt!' Hanni explained, her eyes sparkling with excitement.

Minji, always up for an adventure, nodded eagerly. Haerin, the cautious one, hesitated but eventually agreed, thinking it could be fun.

As they wandered deeper into the woods, they stumbled upon a hidden cave, partially concealed by the thick vines and colourful wildflowers.

'What if there's treasure inside?' Minji whispered, her heart racing. Hanni pushed aside the vine and took a deep breath.

'Only one way to find out!'

'Wait!'

'W—what if there's something dangerous inside... ar—are we going to make it out alive?' Haerin protested.

'Relax, we'll be fine.' Minji promised Haerin.

'OK...'

With flashlights in their hands, the trio entered the cave. The air was cool and filled with an earthy scent. As they explored, they noticed strange markings on the walls – ancient symbols that seemed to tell a story of a time long gone. Suddenly, Haerin spotted something glimmering in the dim light.

'Look over there!' She shouted, pointing to a pile of rocks.

As they approached, they uncovered a large, dusty fossil. It was unlike anything they had ever seen before. The fossil had long, slender legs, a small head with a wired thing on its mouth, just like a beak and a long tail. The fossil was surrounded by millions of small little glamorous gems that sparkle like stars.

'This must be a dinosaur!' Hanni gasped, her imagination running wild.

Excitedly, they decided to name their discovery 'Celestialosaurus', inspired by the shimmering gemstones that reminded them of the night sky. They carefully took pictures and notes, knowing they had stumbled upon something extraordinary.

After their adventure, the friends rushed to the village library to research their find. They found out that the Celestialosaurus was an unburned legend that lived millions of years ago and was known to be a gentle herbivore that roamed the ancient forest, munching on leaves and plants.

It was getting late, they planned a sleepover on Hanni's house.

'You don't want to be late, do you? Hanni teased Haerin, who was exhausted.

'Whoever is last doesn't get extra ice cream scoops for dessert!' Hanni shouted while running like a cheetah.

'Oh no you don't!' Minji who was catching up to Hanni.

'Be careful!' Haerin trying to catch up but still concerned about her own safety, so she let them be.



# The Discovery of the Loraptor

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Jong, Hayley – 11*

In China, a hidden hillside hole surrounded by countless trees drew the attention of a team of dinosaur bone researchers. Leading this expedition was Doctor Chow Grant, a passionate dinosaur bone researcher who had long been thought of the idea that some dinosaurs were more bird-like than previously thought. Rumours of unusual fossils found in the area had attracted her, and local myths spoke of a colourful creature that once lived the forest, now a wetland park. Doctor Chow was determined to uncover the truth behind these myths.

Upon arrival, they were greeted by chirping birds which unwelcomely pooped on them. Some passing by hikers offered to come, but Doctor Chow immediately declined, preferring the researchers to venture alone. Doctor Chow felt a sense of excitement building as she imagined what lay hidden beneath the layers of earth. The journey to the site filled their hearts with anticipation.

As they dug deeper, tunnels began collapsing! The team ran to safety, rescuing trapped members. Those trapped had continued digging and unearthed fossils! The fossils were small with a beak-like structure resembling nowadays lorikeets. As they carefully investigated the site, they found a cluster of fossils that revealed a previously unknown species of dinosaur, later named “Loraptor”. The Loraptor was a small, feathered dinosaur, about the size of a large parrot, with a small body built for speed. Its most beautiful feature was its vibrant feathers with colours: reds, blues, greens and yellows that blew in the breeze, making it a pallet of colour in the sunlight. As they put the skeleton together, the team studied at its soft feathers and long beak, which seemed like its diet is rich in fruits and nectar.

Doctor Chow believed that the Loraptor lived in the treetops, using its powerful wings with incredible speed to navigate the forest. Its beak was suited for extracting nectar from flowers, and its feathers served for display and camouflage. The discovery was remarkable; it indicated that some dinosaurs were more common than previously thought, bridging the gap between non-common dinosaurs and modern birds.

News of the Loraptor fascinated scientists and the public. Documentaries were made, showcasing the vibrant colours and behaviours of this unique dinosaur. Schools taught lessons about the Loraptor, inspiring a new generation of dinosaur bone researchers and bird watchers. Children everywhere were amazed by the idea of a dinosaur that resembled a colourful bird, increasing their curiosity about prehistoric life.

Further research into the Loraptor's ecosystem was conducted. They examined pollen grains and plant fossils, reconstructing a picture of the beautiful environment in which it used to live in. This interesting approach revealed how the Loraptor interacted with its surroundings, feeding on nectar from flowering plants and playing an important role in the wild. The discovery of plant species that coexisted with the Loraptor provided nutrition into the ecological dynamics of the time.

However, the journey was not without its difficulties. Some sceptics questioned the significance the find, arguing that more evidence was needed to support its place in the dinosaur life. They pointed to the lack of similar fossils and expressed doubts about the fact of its behaviours. Undiscouraged, Doctor Chow continued her research, determined to share the wonder of the Loraptor with the world. She organised workshops and join in many programs, engaging with schools and local communities to spread word about the discovery.

The Loraptor inspired conservation efforts, leading to the protection of its habitat that had once lived this extraordinary creature. The team collaborated with local governments to put protected areas, ensuring that future generations could continue to learn from the rich history beneath the earth. At first, the wetland members were enraged and called their manager for complaints. Thankfully, the manager, learning of the situation, closed the wetland park and established a smaller one to shield the dinosaur site.

In the following years, the Loraptor became a symbol of the vibrant and colourful life that once filled the earth. It highlighted the importance of conservation, as the team worked tirelessly to teach the public about the use of dinosaur bone research and the need to protect natural habitats. Doctor Chow often reflected on how the discovery had transformed her life and the lives of those around her. What began as a quest for knowledge has blossomed into a movement, bringing together scientists, educators, and the community in a shared passion for discovery.

As Doctor Chow gazed out over the forest, she felt a sense of fulfilment, knowing that the Loraptor would continue to inspire awe and curiosity. With each new discovery, they were uncovering the rich tapestry of life that had existed long before humans walked the earth. The story of the Loraptor would endure, serving as a vibrant reminder of the wonders of evolution and the importance of protecting the natural world.

Doctor Chow's work earned her invitations to speak globally, sharing her experiences and the story of the Loraptor. Each presentation was an opportunity to inspire others, to cultivate a sense of wonder about the past, and to encourage the next generation of scientists to continue their passions. As she shared the colourful illustrations of the Loraptor, she could see the spark of interest in the eyes of her audience, and it filled her with hope for the future of dinosaur bone researchers.

The Loraptor lived on, not just in the ancient past, but in the hearts and minds of those who marvelled at its beauty. It stood as a testament to the power of discovery and the enduring connection between dinosaurs and the vibrant life that surrounds us today. The journey of the Loraptor was a celebration of nature's creativity, reminding everyone that beneath the layers of earth lie stories waiting to be uncovered, each more fascinating than the last.

# The Discovery Of The Vliegende

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Kwok, Ho Sum Summer – 10*

Wow, this view of the Great Wall is great! I knew coming to Beijing for a holiday would be the best idea!

“Ava! Concentrate in class! I know it is just an online class but stop looking everywhere! Concentrate!” My teacher said loudly.

Just as I was about to turn around, my best friend, Kaia, tapped my shoulder. “Ava! You won’t believe what I just found!” She exclaimed.

“What did you find?” I replied calmly. I highly doubted that it would be anything important, but since Kaia was so excited, I’d listen.

“I think I found a fossil! Since you have always wanted to learn about dinosaurs, I can take you to see it!” I was quivering in excitement. The mere thought of learning about birds’ past lives was absolutely exhilarating.

“Yes! Can we go to the fossil after I am done with my online class and do some research about it?” I responded happily as my heart leapt in joy.

“Sure! I can take you there once you’re free!” Kaia answered, knowing that I would cherish the opportunity to examine her newly discovered fossil.

During the whole lesson, I couldn't focus as the mere thought of the fossil, rare as gold, clouded my brain entirely. In a blink of an eye, class was over and Kaia was already taking me to the fossil she found not too long ago. Digging a hole in the ground, she uncovered a rock-like object.

In the ground lay a peculiar-looking fossil, the rock was coloured in different shades of grey, a bit of it was covered in dirt and grime. There was a weird long stick shaped part sticking out of the end of the fossil. Presumably, that was the tail of the dinosaur. Beside it were two enormous objects: the wings, of course. The top part was also in a weird shape. It was pointy and long, most likely the beak of the legendary creature.

“Ta-da! This is the fossil I told you about!” Kaia declared proudly. We took the fossil back to our apartment and did some research on it. Hours passed by but we still couldn't find anything.

Until, Kaia had a thought, “Ava! Listen to this! We’ve been looking for hours and haven’t gotten the results. This type of fossil might still be undiscovered. What should we do?”

“We should show it to the government!” I answered.

After that, we walked to the government department across the street.

“Good afternoon, ladies. What brings you here?” The security guard asked, his eyes examining us, searching for an answer.

“Well, we think we may have found a fossil. Can we speak to government officers?” Kaia asked politely. “Sure, follow me!” With that, the security guard lead us to the government’s council hall.

“Hello, young citizens. What brings you here?” An officer inquired. After some explaining, we showed him the fossil Kaia found.

“Wow! I must say that I am incredibly impressed! We, the government have been trying to obtain this fossil. Therefore, you both will be heavily rewarded. Would you like to learn about it?”

“Holy cow! Yes, we would love to!” I exclaimed. A discussion about my favourite subject with a professional would be such an honour.

“Well, these are actually the remains of a Vliegende! They are flying dinosaur with special eyesight! They possess specially built in lens help them see over 20 miles away! They also have long and sharp beaks to help them catch variants of fish from the sea. That’s not all! Vliegende’s have a huge wingspan which helps them glide through strong wind currents and a more stable flight. Their bodies are also 10 meters long, not to mention their loud roars so that they scare their predators away. They became extinct over 37000 years ago. Pretty impressive, huh? However, this fossil you’ve retrieved is not yet complete, which makes this dinosaur extremely rare and unique.”

“But how did they go extinct?” Kaia questioned, curious.

“Well, research shows these creatures were attacked by millions of Nagalayangs . Nagalayangs are hostile flying dinosaurs which feast on the meat of Vliegende’s! It is also suspected that it took over a century for the Nagalayang species to demolish all the Vliegende’s, because they were such fierce warriors. They did not put up a weak fight! Nevertheless, they were outnumbered by the army of Nagalayangs.” The officer replied.

“That’s such a pity!” Kaia cried in sympathy.

“Anyways, here are your certificates! Thanks for coming in to help!”

Wow! That was such a great adventure! I also learnt one thing: to not give up even when times are tough. The Vliegende are uniquely special living beings that dated back millions of years ago, they are prized historical creatures. They were magnificent dinosaurs which roamed the Earth once. I would love to observe them with my very own eyes, but unfortunately even if I wanted to study other kinds of dinosaurs they are all extinct at this very moment, all because of a big fiery meteor!

# The Chinese Dinosaur

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Lau, Yee Kiu Athena – 11*

“Oh my goodness! What is this thing?”

Tiffany Johnston, a young archaeologist, was on an excavation near the Great Wall of China, when she stumbled upon a peculiar discovery. Buried beneath the earth was a long, white object. Thinking that it might be a precious artefact, she carefully dug it up and, to her surprise, she had found something that looked suspiciously like a dinosaur bone. The other archaeologists heard her exclams and rushed over to her. Her partner, George Anderson, examined the bone and agreed that it was from a dinosaur.

Intrigued, everyone began to dig at the spot where she had found the bone and soon, they discovered the entire skeleton of the unknown dinosaur. It was small and long in size, with two horns on its head and two pairs of feet. It did not look like any of the other kinds of dinosaur the archaeologists had seen before.

“You know what, I think it kind of looks like a Chinese Dragon!” George said as he inspected the skeleton intently.

Eager to learn more about this mythical creature, Tiffany decided to seek the expertise of Professor Jenkins, a renowned scientist and inventor known for his humility. When Tiffany came to his laboratory to ask for his help, he said that he had just the right thing to help her. He brought her to a room where an enormous metal sphere sat on the floor. The sphere’s interior was large and roomy, much to her surprise. There were three chairs inside, and a small table in the middle. There was also a large tablet sitting on top of a pedestal facing the chairs.

“You wish to go back in time and see what that species of dinosaur looked like, right?” Professor Jenkins asked. “Well, the Time–O–Sphere can help you with that! You only need to use the tablet to capture an image of the dinosaur’s skeleton, then press that green button on the left corner of the screen, Zoom! You will be teleported back in time to the era in which those dinosaurs had existed!”

“Professor Jenkins, you’re...you’re a genius! Thank you so so much!” Tiffany was bursting with excitement.

“But,” Professor Jenkins said, “If you want to come back to the present, you must remember to get into the Time–O–Sphere by pressing the red button on the right corner of the screen. Otherwise, you will never be able to be transported back to the present!”

“Oh, yes! I almost forgot to ask you about how to get back! Phew!”

After she had left the professor’s lab, she took the tablet straight to the site and took a photo of the skeleton immediately. Next, she went to find George and told him about everything and asked him if he wanted to come with her. George was also curious about the dinosaur and he agreed to come with her. They arrived at the lab and Professor Jenkins took them to the room. There, they sat down on the chairs and watched Professor Jenkins help them press the button. When Professor Jenkins closed the door and walked out of the room, the machine began to hum and shake as it started to hover six inches from the ground. Suddenly, a portal appeared and the machine flew straight into it! They looked at the small windows and saw many different important times in history flashing past their eyes.

When they had arrived at the Cretaceous Period, the machine halted and they landed at a place with many plants. The temperature was comfortable, much to Tiffany's surprise. She had thought it would be hot and humid. Nevertheless, they were grateful for the comfy weather; it would be easier to find the dinosaurs.

They set out to find them and after walking for a while, they found an amazing sight: flocks and troops of dinosaurs were all fighting or eating plants, some of which were playing in the river. There were many different kinds of dinosaurs, like the Triceratops, Edmontosaurus and the Pachycephalosaurus. There were also some more fierce dinosaurs, such as the Tyrannosaurus Rex and the Albertosaurus, which were famous carnivores.

Tiffany was looking around for the special dinosaur, but she couldn't see any. George was looking at the Quetzalcoatlus (the biggest flying dinosaur and animal of all time) in the sky and he saw a dinosaur that looked just like the skeleton fly past!

"Look ,Tiff! It's that dinosaur you want to find!" George shouted. She looked up and saw a beautiful red and gold figure rush past. "The Chinese Dragon! It's real!"

Sure enough, the dinosaur that they were searching for wasn't actually a dinosaur, but a dragon. Tiffany and George took out their cameras and took many pictures of the majestic dragon. Just as they were about to leave, a T-Rex that had been scavenging for its lunch had spotted the two, and being very hungry, it ran after them! Tiffany and George ran for their lives. However, they came to a halt when they reached a dead end. The T-Rex was just about to eat them up when the dragon appeared! It scooped them up onto its back and flew away from the T-Rex. They could hear it roaring in protest as they flew to safety.

Before they left, they thanked the dragon for its help and Tiffany could have sworn that it had understood what they had said. They went back to the present and told everyone about their experience with the dragon. The pictures they took and the skeleton of the dragon were both proof of its existence. Since that day, Tiffany and George had been thinking of the dragon – if it hadn't saved them from the T-Rex, they would have been dead by now.

The skeleton was placed in a museum and next to it, a small sign wrote: The Chinese Dragon.

# An Oriental Octave

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Leung, Hiu Yuet – 10*

After a long day working hard on the farm, I decided to visit my friends in Jiangxi, China.

I met Ella and Jamie for lunch at a restaurant. Jamie was a bookworm, and Ella was fascinated with dinosaurs. Ella mentioned a rare dinosaur sighting in Liaoning and a new titanosaur in Jiangxi. I laughed it off as a tall tale. After saying goodbye, I decided to do some fun activities around the hotel. The thing that interested me most was exploring a cave.

I set off for the pitch-black cave with my flashlight. Suddenly, I heard an ear-piercing sound. A weird bird-like creature with huge wings and fierce eyes greeted me with a growl. It was as large as a husky! Could this be the new titanosaur? Panicked, I looked inside my bag and found a few treats. I threw it far away from me. The creatures chased it and left me. I crawled desperately to the exit, but it was blocked by a large stone. I heard voices on the other side.

'We can make money with these titanosaur!'

'What about the loose one?'

'Don't worry, we'll catch it soon and display it in our museum.'

I screamed as I saw the titanosaur coming back. I prepared for the worst when it licked me in the face. Realising I couldn't abandon them, I took them with me to escape from this place. As we went back to the way we had gone, we met an 8-year-old girl running away. The titanosaur chased after her.

Luckily, I stopped them just in time. I explained everything I've gone through and how we found an exit. The girl's name was Mary. She loved archery. She didn't know the way back but she knew all the traps in this cave so she would take the lead. We made a bow for her. It might come in handy when there's a monster.

'We should name these dinosaurs and pick a partner. I love this one the best. It sleep's with me and plays with me all day. I'll name it Cuma because he's very curious.' Mary said. 'I'll choose this one. It's the most intelligent one and it's lightning fast. I could hunt prey very easily with her. I'll name it Lorin.' I decided.

Choosing the right path to avoid a trap, we rescued a trapped titanosaur and tended to its wounds. As we faced more obstacles and heard people searching for us, Mary's quick thinking helped us dodge dangers and reach the exit as a dark figure blocked our path. Just when we were about to leave the cave, a dark shadow stood in our way and roared loudly. We all fell to the ground. Unable to know what was happening, I raised my sword and prepared to fight, but my sword was no match for the charging T-rex. I climbed on Lorin and escaped from the danger just in time. Mary shot an arrow at the back of the T-rex, but it bounced off the skin of the dinosaur and it made him even furious. The T-rex turned to Mary. Mary shot an arrow at the dinosaur's foot. It hit. The T-rex howled in pain. Suddenly, I had a very risky idea. I signalled Lorin to catch the T-rex's attention. She ran in circles around the dinosaur. It worked. The T-rex was coming after Lorin and me. Despite the T-rex's enormous size, he ran faster than a race car. Lorin made a barking sound to Cuma telling him my plan. Cuma nodded and began to catch up to the T-rex. He silently crept under the dinosaur and waited for Mary to shoot. Mary shot but it didn't hit. It scratched the T-rex's skin. The T-rex kicked Cuma and Mary. They went flying for a few miles and hit the wall. 'Mary! Cuma!' I howled in agony.

I ran for the T-rex's neck. With one final push, Mary threw her bow at me. One shot. I had to hit. Squeezing every ounce of courage out of me. I shot the arrow at the dinosaur praying that it would hit. For what seemed like forever, the arrow zoomed past the T-rex's body and hit the T-rex's neck. The T-rex fell right on top of me, and I escaped just in time. "Mary! Cuma! I ran to them and treated their wounds. I checked their heartbeat. I could still hear a faint heartbeat. I was relieved they were alive but now I was more worried about when they would wake up and how to explain to Mary's parents.

After a while, Cuma woke up but Mary didn't. After a few more hours, Mary woke up. A familiar voice demanded to know what happened, leading to a conflict over the titanosaurs. Despite the argument, the titanosaurs defended us, teaching our opponents a lesson. Plans for more adventures were made, and we parted ways with the promise of future meetings.

#### Epilogue

A week later, I walked endlessly towards the cave when I first met the titanosaurs. I couldn't wait to see Lorin, my titanosaur friend. I crept out the window and took a bus to Yau Tong. I was searching for Mary when I fell in a hole. I felt like Alice in Wonderland falling into a rabbit hole when three familiar figures appeared. Mary, Cuma and Lorin. "Welcome back! I missed you so much!" "I missed you Mary, you too Lorin!" "I'm glad you still remember" "How would I forget the happiest moments of my life!" "Ready for an adventure?" "Of course!" Together they went on an adventure, sailing into the unknown.



# My Time—Travelling Friendship with a Little Dinosaur

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Leung, Sum Yu Janette – 11*

This morning, I was very excited because it was my first time going on a study tour as an Archaeology student. We were heading to China to see some new dinosaur species that had just been discovered.

When we got there, it was already noon. Suddenly, I saw a cave nearby. I was so curious about what might be inside, so I decided to walk in. It was dark and damp inside. Then, I saw a flash and the whole cave seemed to be moving. After it stopped, I saw a bright light shining into the cave. I walked towards the light calmly.

After I got out of the cave, a small dinosaur came running towards me. I was scared because I have never seen a real dinosaur before, especially a live one! At that moment, I found out that I had somehow travelled back to ancient China. I tried to play and pet the little dinosaur but, it just kept a distance from me. I understood that this wasn't the best way to get to know more about this cute dinosaur. So I decided to sit down with the dinosaur and made eye contact with it. Eventually, when the dinosaur felt comfortable, it started to play with me. We played for a long time and became best friends.

Time passed so fast, and soon it was already evening. I had to go back to modern China to meet up with my classmates. I knew I couldn't bring the dinosaur back with me because modern China is full of technology, and the little dinosaur wouldn't be able to survive in such a place filled with technology. It should belong in nature.

Before I left, we made a promise to each other that we will see each other again very soon. I went back into the cave and waved goodbye to the little dinosaur.

After I met my classmates, we went to see the ancient fossils of the newly discovered dinosaur species. And guess what? I saw the same ancient fossils of the little dinosaur I had met. I gently pet the ancient fossils and thought of the promise we had made to each other earlier. I will remember this moment forever. I decided not to tell my classmates about it so I can keep this little story just between me and the little dinosaur forever.

# Fossilized Wonder: The Toothless Dinosaur in China

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Ng, Chi Kei – 11*

“A new species of dinosaurs’ fossil has been unearthed in China!” the newscaster exclaimed.

I am sure the majority of you are familiar with the extinction of the dinosaurs. Yet, few pondered about the enthralling narratives concealed within ancient fossils. Some people claim that it is an asteroid, while others say it is because of the climatic shifts. How about their traits and lifestyles? Throughout the centuries, there have been numerous myths and theories about these enigmatic creatures. However, this new species is one of a kind.

An exceptional team of palaeontologists embarked on an expedition in the Qinghai province of China, right at the corner of the Yangtze River, the largest river in China. Less than fifty people had visited there, it was a very dark and mysterious corner, with whispers of wishing wells, wyverns, and unknown monsters. You had to climb a very tall mountain just to get there. There may be other fossils or hysterical things there to solve other mysteries that have not yet been solved by the society.

After a week of careful examination, they made a shocking and surprising discovery and announced, “They possess no teeth.” This has gotten millions of people in awe and wondering about their habitats and their survival instincts. The news spread like wildfire, dominating discussions online, on television, and in newspapers. Why were they found next to the river? What sustained them in the absence of teeth? Were they herbivores? Did they climb trees or live as a group? But above all, the pervasive question lingered: Are the age-old myths grounded in reality?

Scientists believe that these types of dinosaurs were amphibians as they lived near water. There have been discoveries saying that they spent most of their time in water like crocodiles. Others say they mainly slept near riverbanks to escape excessive heat. These intriguing theories remain unverified. However, there are just so many guesses that are getting out of control. Therefore, scientists are trying to figure out the answer as quickly as possible so it would not get too crazy.

As for their diet, studies indicate a remarkable muscular control that facilitated the consumption of prey without mastication. Frogs, snakes, and various creatures that ventured close to water sources were purportedly on their menu. Some experts also claimed that they munch on wood or grass. However, the absence of human observers during their era leaves their dietary preferences shrouded in uncertainty.

Their sharp claw structure hints that they can climb trees within seconds. Their claws are similar to birds’, which can assist them to hook onto branches and balance. Of course, only large trees with giant and strong branches and tree trunks will work for them due to their big size and weight. Despite their weight, climbing onto a tree or jumping off was probably one of the only solutions if they wanted to taste birds.

Humans are not sure if they live individually or as a group. People do speculate that they live individually, as only one dinosaur fossil was dug up there. Yet, with limited human presence in the region, the possibility of additional fossils or animal remains awaiting discovery cannot be discounted.

So by now you may be asking, if they have a craving for everything, hunger should not be a problem, then how did they become extinct? Scientific consensus points to an asteroid impact that led to widespread animal and plant extinction. Herbivores were first perished as they rely on plants as their only source of food. Not long later, the carnivores also

disappeared from the wild. Alternately, hypotheses revolving around abrupt climate shifts or extreme cold also hold merit, underscoring the ongoing quest for definitive answers.

Now is time for the most popular question on the internet, the moment we have all been waiting for: what are those myths that have been there for so many years and are they true?

One of the first myths was a wishing well. Supposedly, visitors would toss a coin inside the well and pray for good luck. The more the penny is worth, the more good luck it will bring you. We believe that wishing wells don't actually exist, there may be a well, but you will just be scammed for your penny.

Another legend intertwines the concept of a "Blood Moon Night," occurring at intervals of two to three decades. On that specific night, a wyvern would come as human form, presenting people with two choices: make a wish or go into the well to look for a magic seed; if they find the seed, it is all over. But if they fail, they will become the wyvern and be stuck in the well until the next Blood Moon Night. Obviously, this is pretty fake as magic is just a random fairy tale thing.

A myth says that monsters and ghosts and even other undiscovered creatures live there, in a deep, dark forest. It also claimed that no one has ever gotten past those mythical yet mysterious creatures without losing their precious life. Some people actually do believe in ghosts or monsters, although they are not true. Despite that, there may be some undiscovered creatures or animals there that no one has ever seen.

There has also been a myth saying that in the very end of the forest was a haunted city with churches, cemeteries or hotels, all haunted. But is it true? Veracity remains elusive, because it would be the biggest news and you would be a literal real life superhero if you could unravel the unknown.

After all, a new species of dinosaur fossil has been found, but are there any more similar fossils or creatures waiting to be found? There are still so many questions yet to be answered. But what we do know at the moment is that a new species has been discovered, and we should all be excited and proud for our scientists' hard work, sweat and tears.

# Fossils of Regret

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Wan, Joey – 11*

'I've got it, I've got it!' A man with a long, black moustache cried out, his voice full of happiness and joy echoed around the neighbourhood.

'What's going on, Mr. Yip?' a woman's voice sounded from next door.

'Oh, it's you, Miss Chan. I j—just won the lottery, YES!' he stuttered, clearly embarrassed by his childish and overexcited behaviour, but nobody knew why he was so happy.

Mr. Yip was a palaeontologist in China, and he had just received news that his co-workers had found some dinosaur fossils in his project to study China's history. He thought about how much money he could make, so he immediately sent an email to them to dismiss them from this project, and started to plan out his route to success.

The next day, he hopped on a train to the site where his co-workers discovered the fossils, and started to collect each fossil one by one. He carefully put them into a box cushioned with cotton balls. He then slowly put the box into his rucksack. He filled the rucksack with some other stuff and headed home.

Upon arriving home, he gently pulled the box out of the bag and admired the fossils. He then prepared a table, delicately placed the fossils onto it, and started to probe the fossils. One of his co-workers, Mark, didn't have a good reputation for Mr. Yip. He harboured suspicions about Mr. Yip's intentions. He thought Mr. Yip was up to no good, so he asked his brother, a police officer for help. 'This doesn't sound like a good thing is going to happen.' Mark's brother stated, thinking hard. 'I can ask my chief to give me permission to question Mr. Yip.'

A knock on the door interrupted Mr. Yip's quiet examination. 'Who's there?' he inquired.

'Mark and his brother, Sir.'

'Come in then.' answered Mr. Yip. He rapidly shoved the fossils under his bed. When he opened the door and let Mark and his brother in, he was taken aback. 'Mark—k, y—you never s—said that your brother was a p—police officer!', Mr Yip stammered, his voice laden with terror.

Mark wasted no time. 'So, tell us where you've hidden the fossils!' he demanded, his rage bubbling like a pot of boiling water.

'W—what are y—you talking a—about? I—i don't really u—understand!' he answered, now trembling.

'I know what you're hiding, Mr. Yip. And here's a gift. A sacking, and an 8 year imprisonment.' said Mark's brother coldly. 'Now, hand over the fossils, or face 5 policemen. Your call.'

Reluctantly, Mr. Yip finally surrendered and handed out the fossils. The fossil is now in a museum and is safe from being stolen, ever again.

# The Discovery of the Dragon Bird

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Wong, Wing Yee Silvia – 11*

In the heart of Liaoning province, farmer Li Jun's routine life took an extraordinary turn one day. Amidst the sun-soaked fields, his shovel hit something hard. Curious, he bent down and discovered a weird-looking bone in the soil. This chance discovery marked the beginning of an extraordinary journey that would forever change his quiet existence.

Upon examination by local scientists, the bone was a relic from a small dinosaur, which they later named *Sinosauropteryx*, or “the China dragon bird.” It was the first dinosaur found with clear evidence of feathers, which made scientists rethink everything they knew about dinosaurs and birds.

Li couldn't believe it. One moment he was just a farmer, and the next, he was in the middle of a scientific breakthrough. As news spread about *Sinosauropteryx*, paleontologists from all over the world came to Liaoning to dig up more fossils. The area was like a treasure chest, hiding dinosaur bones waiting to be discovered. Over time, more than 40 dinosaur species and 24 pterosaurs were unearthed, each bone fragment adding a new chapter to the captivating saga of Earth's prehistoric inhabitants.

One of the palaeontologists, Dr Zhang Wei, became a bit of a local celebrity with his excitement about the discoveries. During his visit to Li's farm, Dr. Zhang's eyes gleamed as he talked about *Sinosauropteryx*'s feathers. “Can you imagine?” he said, practically bouncing on his feet. “These dinosaurs must have been colourful and beautiful, like some kind of dragon soaring through the sky!”

To Li, it was like listening to a tale from a fantastical world, a narrative that spoke of creatures long gone but not forgotten. He often went to the digs, watching the scientists work with enthusiasm. The scientists were like kids in a candy store, uncovering bones and piecing together the ancient world. It was exciting to see how something so old could spark so much joy and curiosity.

As time went on, more discoveries popped up around Jiangxi province, where scientists found a huge titanosaur—a long-necked beast that was absolutely massive. Imagine a dinosaur so big it could probably reach the tops of the tallest trees! This discovery showed that dinosaurs in China were way more diverse than anyone had thought. Li's life took on a new hue as he became a local hero, regaling children from nearby villages with tales of the dragon bird and the wonders of ancient life.

One day, while visiting the museum where the *Sinosauropteryx* fossil was displayed, Li overheard some students chatting excitedly about the discoveries. They were all about ancient ecosystems and how important it was to protect these treasures. Li smiled to himself, realizing that the dragon bird had sparked a flame of curiosity in these kids. It was inspiring to see them so passionate about the past.

As palaeontologists kept exploring, collaborations with scientists from all over the world blossomed. They shared knowledge and resources, working together to uncover even more secrets of the dinosaur age. Advanced technology, like 3D scanning, allowed them to study fossils without harming them, which was pretty amazing.

In the midst of all this excitement, Dr Zhang and his team decided to dig in a remote area of Liaoning that had never been touched before. As they carefully brushed away the dirt, they felt a rush of adrenaline with each new find. They wanted to piece together an entire ecosystem that had thrived millions of years ago.

One evening, as the sun dipped below the horizon, Dr Zhang unearthed something incredible: a nearly complete skeleton of a small dinosaur. The team gathered around, their hearts racing with excitement. They knew this find could reveal even more about how dinosaurs lived and evolved.

Li Jun watched all of this unfold, feeling a deep connection to the past. He thought about how, just a few years ago, he was just a farmer with a simple life. Now he was part of a story that was being told around the world. He realized that everything had come full circle—from his discovery to the excitement it had sparked in others.

In the years that followed, documentaries and books about the finds in China captured the attention of people everywhere. The stories of ancient creatures, once hidden beneath layers of rock, now inspired a global audience. Li felt proud to be connected to such an important chapter in history.

As Li sat on his porch one evening, looking out over the fields that had once concealed ancient wonders, he couldn't help but smile. The story of *Sinosauropteryx* was more than just about a dinosaur; it was about curiosity, adventure, and the never-ending quest to understand our world. The whispers of the past danced in the air, reminding him that every fossil had a story waiting to be told.

In China, the echoes of the Mesozoic era continued to inspire people of all ages. The legacy of the dragon bird connected the ancient past to the present, igniting a passion for discovery. As the sun set, Li felt a special bond with that ancient world, a place where dragons had once roamed and where every new find was a thrilling adventure.

One night, as he gazed up at the stars, Li thought about the kids who had visited him, their faces filled with wonder. He felt a sense of responsibility to share what he had learned and to inspire the next generation. The journey wasn't over, and the story of the dragon bird was just one chapter in the ongoing saga of life on Earth.

With a grin, he whispered into the night, "Thanks, little dragon bird. You've shown us that there's so much more to discover, and all it takes is a little curiosity." As the wind rustled through the fields, it felt like the spirits of ancient creatures were swirling around him, reminding him that the past was never truly gone—it lived on in the stories we share and the dreams we inspire.

# A New Dino Species

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Wu, Myee – 10*

Today, we just found a new species of dinosaur in China. It is an amazing discovery, unlike any other dinosaur we've ever known.

Sixty million years ago, dinosaurs roamed supreme across the planet. These humongous, dominating animals ruled the earth. They filled the clear skies! They covered the grassy grounds! They flooded the ocean waters! However, among these towering giants, one diminutive species of dinosaur was not appreciated – the malusaur. The malusaur were tiny, vulnerable creatures. They were often stepped on by the other dinosaurs, or they always couldn't find any berries to eat. These two factors endangered the species.

Therefore, to stay alive, a single malusaur took action to defy the odds. It miraculously evolved into a vicious creature with immense strength, extreme agility and an aggressive personality. Through a process of evolution fueled by necessity, this solitary malusaur emerged as a formidable predator with immense strength, unparalleled agility, and a ferocious demeanor. Reproducing over and over, this malusaur made all malusaur violent and powerful within the dinosaur kingdom.

Despite their newfound power and aggression, the malusaur still faced a critical challenge – hunger. Since berries were scarce and lacked protein, they changed their diet and became carnivorous brutes. They went around, biting anything in sight, turning to a diet of flesh to satisfy their voracious appetites. Most dinosaurs were frightened by their desire and longing for food, so they steered clear of the malusaur... but they couldn't escape. The beasts licked their lips and devoured the enormous raptors one by one who dared to cross their path.

The reign of the malusaur was marked by brutality and destructive might, as they vanquished their rivals with unmatched ferocity and unyielding strength. Their reputation as fierce, swift, and relentless predators spread far and wide, establishing them as the undisputed overlords of their ancient world.

But most importantly, they embodied the concept of a powerful statement: Even if you fail, if you make mistakes and it all goes downhill, you can still get back up. You can still improve and if you try your hardest, you are bound to succeed. No matter how many mistakes you make, as long as you don't give up, you'll get your way in the end. The tale of the malusaur served as a poignant illustration of the enduring truth that perseverance, resilience, and a relentless spirit can lead to triumph against all.

# New Species of Dinosaurs in China – Dihydrogemonoxiderus

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Wu, Tsz Yan – 9*

Around 230 million years ago, the Earth was a very different place. This was the time of the Triassic Period, when dinosaurs roamed the land. There were several diverse species of these ancient reptiles coming in various shapes and sizes, from the fierce carnivorous *Herrerasaurus* to the agile *Coelophysis*. These prehistoric reptiles were mostly carnivorous or herbivorous. During the Triassic Period, competition among creatures was high. Dinosaurs competed with other reptiles for natural resources, including food and territory. Carnivorous dinosaurs were at the top of the food chain, hunting on smaller animals, introducing a predator–prey dynamic.

The Triassic Period also experienced significant environmental changes, including large swathes of forests, dry deserts and open prairies. Due to the Cretaceous–Paleogene event, all the dinosaur species went extinct. Recently, scientists have found fossils of the dinosaurs and other small animals. Scientists in China have made a fascinating discovery, that there is a new form of fossil from an unidentified species of dinosaur.

There was an interesting article about this discovery that scientists have estimated that this dinosaur existed during the late Ordovician Period, a period dating back millions of years. It is remarkable as it represents the first time that scientists have discovered a dinosaur fossil this new. Researchers have reported to the media that their body and bones are translucent, a feature that provided them with a form of camouflage crucial for survival during the mass extinction of the Ordovician Period. Moreover, the scientists found it enthralling that this species of dinosaur had evolved to become concealed in their environment. This species of dinosaur was also made up of partly cartilage, which allowed them to move swiftly.

Due to their swiftness and resemblance to water, scientists have decided to call this species “Dihydrogenmonoxiderus”, otherwise known as the Dirus, whose Latin root translates to “water”. The article also mentions that the Dirus went extinct due to global warming and hunting. The hot weather dried up waterholes, depriving the dinosaurs and their prey of water, resulting in their extinction. The Dirus also encountered bitterly cold temperatures, but they only suffered from frost and lack of movement. The Dirus could also control their body temperature, as they had thermostatic vasculature, otherwise known as thermoregulation. The Dirus also didn’t contract diseases such as Coronary Heart Disease, Arrhythmia, or Cardiomyopathy. Why? Because their blood vessels carried a very astonishing function: self–recovery. If the Dirus experienced any diseases, their blood vessels would immediately get to work and fight the disease.

The Dirus is listed as one of the rarest dinosaurs. Scientists took their descendants, such as birds, into laboratories to conduct experiments. These experiments revealed that the diet of birds significantly impacted the strength and health of their bones. If the birds ate too much meat, their bones would become brittle and yellow. On the other hand, if the birds stuck to a diet of seeds, water, and berries, their bones would be strong and healthy. They also discovered that the Dirus’ pupil structure was similar to humans, with a resemblance of about 92%.

The scientists found this fossil in the Kun Lun Mountains of the Sichuan Province in China. Some researchers believe that the magnetic anomalies in the area may indicate a greater concentration of fossils. Due to the electromagnetic effect, the charge in the magnetic field in the valley causes charge–discharge, making that area a minefield, and minefields target moving objects. Scientists are excited about the prospect of uncovering more fossils in this region as they estimate that the minefield will have many more fossils than other excavation sites.



The Earth has been around for 4.543 billion years, , with its surface constantly changing and evolving through various geological processes.. Scientists are still unsure of how deep they will have to dig to find even more fossils. During the discovery of the Dirus' fossils, the excavators also found many other fossils of unidentified animals underscoring the vast potential for further significant discoveries in palaeontology. This is undoubtedly a notable step forward in our understanding of prehistoric life and the evolutionary adaptations of ancient creatures.

# The Adventure about the Strange Dinosaur

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Zeng, Yuying Julia – 10*

'Stunning news! The palaeontologists discovered a new species of titanosaur in Jiangxi Province. I'm in the excavation site of this strange new found titanosaur in the Nanxiong Formation near Tankou Town in Ganzhou City.' A journalist is reporting the big news on TV excitedly.

One night, when a young paleontologist Tom was scanning the fossils of the dinosaur, he found a thing shining in the fossil's eye. Tom wanted to find out what it was and touched it. Suddenly, the whole room lit up...

When Tom opened his eyes, he was shrinking into oneself and all he could see was a white glow. Yet, he felt very comfortable. He broke out the white shell and saw two dinosaurs staring at him in bewilderment, 'WHY DOES HE HAVE WINGS?' one exclaimed. 'IS HE OUR KID?' wondered the other.

Tom was shocked because he could understand the language of dinosaurs! He looked down at himself: a pair of short hands, some sharp teeth, a very long tail, a pair of strong legs... it's all the part of velociraptor, except...A PAIR OF WINGS?

'He's a freak! He can't stay here,' shouted the titanosaur father.

'But...ok,' the titanosaur mother agreed reluctantly, with tears on her face.

After a few minutes, Tom was kicked out of their cave. Tom was sad and walked along the grasslands, 'Purr!' Tom was hungry. Soon, He spotted a lake, 'Could I get a fish?' His mouth was watering. Tom ran over and try to catch a fish, 'What is he doing here?' he heard a voice.

All of a sudden, his feet left the ground! He looked down and found out that he was not walking, he was caught by a pterosaur mother.

'Don't eat me!' shouted Tom in the air.

Later, Tom was in the pterosaur couple's nest. 'You don't look like our child, don't you?' asked the pterosaur father.

'But he has wings!' replied the pterosaur mother.

'I am not a pterosaur, I am a titanosaur but with wings.'

'Oh, sorry, but where is your daddy and mummy?' asked the pterosaur mother. 'They thought I'm a freak and expelled me,' answered Tom.

'Oh, poor boy! Let me take care of you, OK?' the pterosaur mother offered to care for Tom, who gratefully accepted.. He was so thankful to stay in the pterosaur's nest.

The pterosaur father complimented Tom his strong wings. He began to teach Tom how to fly very soon.

Tom stood on a big rock, flapped his wings and flied down carefully. Several days later, when he was already used to fly with his wings, he could fly to higher places: the tops of caves, small trees and even mini hills. Flying in the sky was so fantastic! Tom enjoyed flying. ‘You are such a clever boy! Now begin your adventure!’ the pterosaur mum taught him how to catch fishes in the lake as food while flying.

One sunny day, when Tom was flying, he saw something shining in the lake. He felt like seeing it somewhere before. He’s so curious that he got close to it and caught it finally. Suddenly, Tom saw a strong light and lost his mind.

When Tom opened his eyes, he was back in his laboratory and still scanning the fossils of the titanosaur, but the shining thing was disappeared. He checked himself and shouted out, ‘I’m back! I’m back now!’

After that day, Tom wrote his amazing experience into a new storybook – *The Adventure about the Strange Dinosaur*, capturing the magical journey he had experienced.

# The Fighting Mamenchisaurus Fossil Discovery

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Zhao, Qianyu – 11*

Just now, Chinese archaeologists released shocking news: they had discovered a complete Mamenchisaurus's fossil! And something even more surprising was, this mamenchisaurus fossil was in a fighting pose! As a total fan of dinosaurs, I couldn't believe my eyes since there had never been such a complete dinosaur fossil before. The news was quickly spread to all over the world and everyone hyped to check it out in person. My parents and I also bought the tickets to the museum where the dinosaur fossil was preserved.

When we arrived there, it was already packed with curious visitors. As we finally made it to the exhibition area, and whoa, the Mamenchisaurus was massive! We were amazed by what was in front of us: a body length of 23 metres, a back height of 4 metres and a weight of 23 tons, it occupied an area about the same as a standard tennis court. Its neck was like half its whole length. It's the longest neck known in the animals that ever lived on Earth. While we were strolling around to admire the fossil's fighting state, we overheard a guide saying, 'The professionals had examined the fossil and found that it was fighting with another dinosaur to protect its egg which was found right by its side. As they were fighting, it was supposed that the thing which made dinosaurs extinct happened. Fortunately, this Mamenchisaurus was protected well and provided a good research object for scientists.'

All in all, it was a historical moment when archaeologists found this fossil and this visit was straight-up historic. Seeing the fossil up close taught me more about dinosaurs. Each mark on its bone is a reminder of the epic fights for survival back in the day. What an interesting 'biology' class it was!

# Echoes of the Terrasaurus and the T-Rex

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Zhen, Pung Tit Amy – 9*

In a distant region of China, a group of villagers stumbled upon ancient and captivating dinosaur fossils while exploring through their surroundings. They immediately reported their findings to the archaeologists. To their astonishment, the fossils belonged to a previously unknown species, later named Terrasaurus, meaning “lizard ruling the land”. The archaeologists also pieced together an exciting story of the Terrasaurus and its tough rival, the Tyrannosaurus rex (T-Rex) according to the traces and clues scattered throughout the surroundings.

In the late Cretaceous period, the colossal Terrasaurus roamed the dense and grassy forests of what is now North America. At nearly 40 feet long and over 15 feet tall, this creature exhibited immense strength and fearsome presence. One day, the ground trembled with the arrival of a gluttonous T-Rex, hungry and searching for prey. The stage was set as the two gigantic creatures faced off, circling each other. With a sudden roar, the T-Rex lunged forward and snapped its jaws, but the Terrasaurus deftly evaded the attack by sidestepping swiftly and countered with a powerful swing of its tail, stunning the predator.

Just as the Terrasaurus felt a great sense of triumph, the surrounding trees began to collapse suddenly, crashing to the ground. Stones from the nearby sturdy walls also began to fall, with angry cracks running down from the top. Nature's fury unfurled – It was a violent earthquake! The Terrasaurus let out a frightened howl, and started to flee for its life. But it was in vain. In the blink of an eye, the Terrasaurus and its rival T-Rex were buried under the ground, entombed in a timeless embrace of stone and soil.

In the aftermath of this catastrophic event, the forest stood in sober silence. This story tells us, before the power of nature, even the strongest creature is nothing but a flicker of flame, easily extinguished by the mighty strength of an earthquake.

# A Dinosaur Mother's Sacrifice

*St. Mary's Canossian School, Zhen, Pung Yu Sophia – 9*

In a village in China, some villagers found some old dinosaur bones while they were working in the fields. Excitedly, they quickly reported their findings to a team of archaeologists. The investigation revealed a surprising fact – the fossils belonged to a brand–new type of dinosaur species, later named Intellilacertae, meaning “intelligent lizard”.

Among these bones, the archaeologists found the skeleton of a baby Intellilacertae was covered by that of a grown–up one. After careful examination, archaeologists pieced together a touching yet heart–breaking story about the extinction of the Intellilacertae.

On what seemed like an ordinary day, the dinosaurs were playing together joyfully, enjoying their time under the bright sun. A mother Intellilacertae was caring for her new–born baby when suddenly, a deafening BOOM echoed through the air as hot molten lava began to rain down from the sky. It was the catastrophic volcanic eruption that marked the end of the dinosaur era. Many dinosaurs perished in the immediate chaos.

In a desperate bid for survival, the mother grabbed her baby and ran for safety. However, a large pumice stone hurtled towards them, leaving them with nowhere to hide. Summoning her last reserves of strength, she shielded her baby with her own body, hoping to give him a chance of survival. In the blink of an eye, they were hit by the large stone and collapsed on the ground. They became a part of history that had been buried forever.

The incredible sight deeply moved everyone who witnessed it. Not only did it reflect the dangerous situation these dinosaurs faced, but also showcased the profound love of a mother and her offspring.

# Adam's Extraordinary Dream with Titan

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Leung, Chun Ning – 9*

Once upon a time, there was a 10-year-old boy named Adam. His father was an experienced fossil archaeologist who traveled the world searing for fossils. Inspired by his dad, Adam loved dinosaurs and spent endless hours crafting realistic dinosaur models and reading fascinating books about these ancient creatures.

One night in February 2024, after enjoying his favorite dinosaur encyclopedia, Adam tucked himself into bed, unaware that he was about to have the most extraordinary dream. He found himself in South America during the Cretaceous period, where the air was sweltering. Nearby volcanoes erupted constantly, spewing fiery lava like a relentless inferno and causing panic among the animals.

In this perilous environment, a giant dinosaur mother, her scales glistening like emeralds under the blazing sun, laid a big, round, white egg in the Amazon forest. After laying the egg, she was very exhausted and weak. She felt the lava creeping closer, but she couldn't leave her precious egg behind. Her heart was heavy, she cried out for help. Just then, a soaring pterosaur with wings like a tapestry of the sky swooped down.

"Please help me!" the dinosaur mother cried, her voice trembling. "I can't leave my egg behind! The lava is coming closer, and I'm too weak to move!"

The pterosaur hesitated for a second and replied, "Don't worry! I'll take it to safety. Trust me!" With a mighty flap of his wings, he lifted the egg and soared to the East, away from the fiery threat.

After flying tirelessly for days, the pterosaur finally discovered a safe place surrounded by tall mountains and abundant water. The exhausted pterosaur decided to rest on a tree. Without realizing it, he fell soundly asleep. The egg slipped from his grasp and tumbled into the grassy bushes below.

When the pterosaur awoke, the egg was gone! He's extremely panic. "Where could it be?" he thought, searching frantically. Despite his efforts, the egg was nowhere to be found. He felt upset and tears filled his eyes. Even though he was heartbroken, he knew he had to keep going. Therefore, he flew away to continue his journey. He hoped that he might find the egg again.

Indeed, the egg was landed beside a lively little monkey who was leaping through the bushes while the pterosaur was sleeping. The monkeys' eyes wide with wonder at the magnificent egg. "I must show my mom!" he exclaimed, carefully cradling the egg in his tiny hands. Determined to protect the little life inside, he scampered off to his home to share his incredible discovery with his mother.

For weeks, the little monkey stayed close to the egg and kept it warm. One sunny morning, the baby finally broke out of the shell. The monkey was thrilled but surprised—it wasn't a bird. Instead, it had a long neck and tail. The monkey had never seen anything like it! He decided to take care of this mysterious creature and named it Titan.

Every morning, the little monkey gathered fresh fruits and vegetables for Titan. "Look what I brought for you today!" he chirped, passing bananas and apples to Titan, who devoured the food with delight. "More, please!" he seemed to say, munching happily.

As days turned into weeks, Titan grew bigger and faster than all the other animals. Soon, he was taller than his monkey mom. Other animals also loved to climb on Titan and play with him. "Can I ride on your back?" they always asked. "Can you lend us a hand?" Whenever they needed help moving something heavy, they turned to Titan. He was always kind and eager to help.

However, as time passed, Titan continued to grow. A year later, he was over 15 meters long! His immense size began to intimidate the other animals, and they no longer wanted to play with him. Titan felt lonely and confused, not understanding why his friends were now afraid of him.

One summer, heavy rains flooded the forest. One night, a sudden rush of water descended from the mountains, toppling trees and sending animals into a panic. "Help! I'm getting drown!" cried a mouse as it tumbled into the raging water.

Titan and his mom woke up to the noise. "What's happening?" Titan asked.

"The flood! It's destroying our treehouse!" his mom cried. Suddenly, she lost her footing and fell into the rushing water. Titan braced himself and used his strong body to hold her up. "I've got you, Mom!" he said, helping her climb to the tallest tree in the forest.

Seeing other animals in danger, Titan quickly went back and forth, rescuing them from the raging flood.

"Thank you, Titan!" squeaked another monkey as he pulled it to safety. "You're so strong!"

"I just want everyone to be safe," Titan replied, determination shining in his eyes.

He worked all night, getting hurt by the rushing water and heavy rocks. With every rescue, his heart swelled with happiness.

"Titan, we're so sorry for being afraid of you," said a mouse. "You're not monster. You are our hero!"

The animals thanked Titan and realized they had been unkind to him. From that day on, they treated Titan as their best friend. They all lived happily together in the lush forest.

Ding, ding, ding! Adam's alarm clock rang, waking him up from his dream. He quickly got ready for school, brushing his teeth and eating breakfast. While he was munching on his cereal, he heard a news report on the TV that made his heart race. His dad was on screen, animatedly discussing a dinosaur fossil he had discovered in Jiangxi. It was over 60 million years old and astonishing 15 meters long. Adam's eyes widened with excitement. "Maybe that's Titan's fossil!" he thought. He could hardly wait to tell his friends at school and ask his dad a million questions when he got home...



# The True Treasures of the Trials

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Lee, Micaela – 12*

It is here, deep inside a lush, where an extraordinary story unfolded—a tale of adventure and an ancient world teeming with colossal creatures. It was a story from the Mesozoic Era, set in what today was known as China, with its rich fossil beds filled with a large number of discoveries of extraordinary dinosaurs.

In the middle of this now-buried valley, a species of monster dinosaurs, Mamenchisaurusl once lived. It was long-necked giants that once roamed this world, munching off the tops of trees reaching for the skies.

The story goes way back, when a herd of them were eating the trees away. Among them was a young Mamenchisaurus named Lin. While the others were contented, Lin was different, ever looking up into the sky and wondering what lay beyond the treetops. While his herd could be content with just grazing and wandering the familiar paths, Lin wanted adventure. His dreams were filled with the echoing calls of creatures far away and the smell of unknown lands.

One day, with a sudden rumble, the earth shook. In his bed, Lin, his heart racing, heard the sound and turned into its direction. A creature he had never seen before forged its way through thick undergrowth: a Tyrannosaurus rex, fearsome yet beautiful, its scales in the sun. With a shake of the earth at each footstep, Lin felt fear and fascination race through him. But this T. rex was no mindless killer of legend. His name was Yao, and he searched for something taken from him—a talisman to protect his family. Yao had heard the stories of how in the valley, there would be an ancient artifact hidden, a relic from a time long past when the great dinosaurs ruled, said to be guarded by a spirit of protection.

Seeing Lin's wide eyes, Yao paused. “You’re not afraid, little one?” it asked, a hint of surprise in its deep voice.

“I want to help!” Lin declared, his heart pounding with excitement. “I’ve always wanted to explore beyond our valley.”

Yao regarded him thoughtfully. “Very well, brave one. This journey will not be easy so brace yourself.”

Lin joined Yao on this journey with mixed feelings of fear and exhilaration. As they walked deeper into the valley, the variation of ancient creatures they came across became even more astonishing: flights of Hesperornis, lean and agile, flying off diving into rivers to catch fish. Lin watched, eyes wide with wonder, wishing he could join them in the water.

Further ahead, a few Pterosaurs were flying across the skies. "Look at them fly!" Lin exclaimed. "I want to be able to do the same."

Yao snickered, "You have your own strengths, Lin. Embrace them."

They walked through thick forests and over rocky lands as they shared stories of their life. Yao spoke of trials it faced as a predator, Lin shared stories of his herd, and the simple life that they lived was all that was fulfilling.

After days of travel, they encountered a hidden cave with ancient carvings on it. The air felt charged with energy, and from within, a soft glow was emanating. They entered and were greeted by the guardian spirit—a magnificent creature with shimmering scales and a wise demeanor, a Sinosauropteryx equipped with feathers that glowed like embers.

“Welcome, travellers,” the spirit greeted them, its voice reverberating with echoing in the cave. “You seek the talisman, but to claim it, you must show yourself worthy.”

Lin and Yao gave each other determined looks; they were stiffened in willingness.

The spirit did not leave them alone but put them through a series of tests, to test their courage, wisdom, and teamwork. First was a raging river, across which Lin used his agility to devise a means of making a bridge with fallen branches for Yao to cross.

Second was a shadowy character, in an attempt to instill fear within them. Collectively they stood firmly, realizing their strength was in their bond.

The last test was a riddle that spoke to the very nature of life. Lin answered with the wisdom of experience, and the guardian spirit nodded in approval.

With the trials done and over, the spirit gave them the talisman—a small, intricately carved stone that shimmered with an ethereal light. “This will protect you and your kin, but remember, true strength lies not in the talisman, but in your hearts,” said the spirit.

Lin and Yao went their separate ways with this feeling of accomplishment. An adventure that had bonded them onto a tie that could not be broken by anything was an experience packed with so many lessons on courage and friendship. He shared with his herd in the valley tales of the adventures. Years passed, and Lin grew into a majestic Mamenchisaurus, revered not only for his size but also for his wisdom. Prosperity reigned in the valley under his leadership, and the legend of Lin and Yao became a precious tale among dinosaurs.

Finally, the land of China, with its rich tapestry of dinosaur history, stands as a symbol of friendship. Lin and Yao had taught anybody who would listen that the adventure does not lie in the unknown but in the ties we forge and the strength we find in each step of the way. The sun had sunk deep in the valley, taking on the wind whispers of old giants – a timeless tale of dinosaurs, adventure, and friendship.

# Dr Wei Lin's Expedition

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Shiu, Quinnley Aube – 10*

Deep in China's Hubei province, a team of dedicated paleontologists convened; the air was electric with anticipation, almost like static. They were about to make an extraordinary announcement: the uncovering of a series of fossil remains that would rewrite the history of feathered animals from dinosaur times. From this rock, they were extracting the remains of a long-legged, birdlike dinosaur that had lived some 90 million years ago.

Dr Wei Lin led the expedition, his dream of uncovering fossilized remnants finally coming to life. As the bright morning sun rose over jagged peaks, illuminating the formations of the hills, the team began to carefully excavate the delicate layers of clay and mud. Each stroke of the brush revealed more than just old dinosaur bones; they revealed a peek into the life of a creature whose existence blurred the lines between dinosaur and avian beauty.

As they dug up the ancient fossils, Dr Wei couldn't help but imagine the world that had existed when these dinosaurs roamed the planet. He envisioned a lush landscape teeming with life, a world in which this creature, which they decided to name "Yichangornis", soared through thick green forests as graceful as a ballerina, its colorful feathers sparkling in the warm rays of golden sun. The airborne dinosaur was adorned with vibrant plumage, a bright kaleidoscope of colors that would make even the most brilliant bird envious. The rainbow of colors swirled around in his mind, mixing various colors together till every imagination of the Yichangornis that Dr Wei had was each more unique than the last, like different layers and shafts of the silver moon: similar, but every one also one-of-a-kind.

More than paleontological pride was at stake; rumors of the importance of Yichangornis began to swirl around scientists, some suggesting that the beautiful, feathered dinosaur may hold the key to understanding the evolutionary transitions between avian and non-avian theropods. Dr Wei felt history weighing on his shoulders; the unearthing of the Yichangornis might deepen humanity's understanding of the natural world.

As they worked tirelessly, the paleontologists discovered a small cave not far from the excavation site. Curious about what else might lie inside, Dr Wei and his assistant Mei cautiously entered, their headlamps cutting through the darkness. The air was cool and damp, the scent of earth filling their noses. Stalactites dripped slowly from the ceiling as they advanced deeper and deeper into the cave.

Before long, they stumbled upon ancient wall engravings—intricate depictions of feathered creatures gliding effortlessly above lush, green landscapes. In wonder, Mei traced her fingers over a depiction that could only be Yichangornis, frozen in an elegant pose, wings outstretched. They wondered who had carved those precise images and why. A sense of almost mystical connection with their ancestor dinosaurs washed over them. The ground suddenly rumbled, and a rift burst open in the wall of the cavern. The cave started shaking with a loud noise like a crack of thunder, fiercely pushing them to the ground. As they scrambled, shocked, back to their feet, they found themselves in a hidden chamber; the walls sparkled of quartz, and in the center there was a singular, rainbow feather laying on a pedestal of shimmering crystal, different from any other they had ever seen.

It sparkled and shimmered with an iridescent shine, casting colorful reflections around the cave. Dr Wei's heart raced—was this a relic of Yichangornis, a feather that had miraculously survived the ravages of time? He felt an inexplicable urge to take it, a tempting beckoning from the distant past.

But as he reached out, a voice boomed through the chamber, echoing off stone. "Only those who respect their past, may set foot on the future."

Dr Wei froze, his hand inches from the vivid feather. Mei stood beside him, wide-eyed and stunned, still as a statue. They exchanged glances, capturing an unspoken bond of purpose—they were here to uncover knowledge, to breathe new life into bygone eras, not to plunder. He withdrew his hand with a deep breath, and the feather stayed, undisturbed on the crystal pedestal. It was then Dr Wei realized the importance of Yichangornis lay not in possession but understanding, and they all agreed not to touch it, to never touch it. As the paleontologists emerged from the cave, they shared their revelations. The connection they felt with Yichangornis was not merely one of discovery; it was an

invitation to rekindle the relationship between humanity and the natural world. They knew their mission had changed; they would not only excavate fossils but also educate the world about the beauty but also fragility of life throughout history.

# A Pourquoi Tale – Why Some Dinosaurs Have Feathers

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Wong, Shing Ching – 11*

Dink!

To most people, it would have sounded like a chisel hitting yet another piece of rock under the obscure moonlight at the excavation area in Sichuan but, to this paleontologist, the sound of his chisel hitting a slightly different kind of rock was unmistakable. He used his brush to sweep away the dirt and he spotted the vague outline of an elaborately feathered dinosaur. His eyes sparkled in delight, and he beamed madly while cradling the fossil. He yelled in exhilaration, “Yes – finally!”

The palaeontologist's vision started to blur, and the rough rocks vibrated. A flock of tiny dinosaurs who lived in caves emerged. They had feathers with vibrant colours and sharp claws to dig. Their dazzling feathers glistened like diamonds in the radiant sunlight. They seemed to be flying just above the ground, skipping as they did with their strong hind legs. Some were darting enthusiastically on a lush green prairie, some frolicking in the stream, and some taking a short nap in a narrow cave nearby.

Boom!

A bolt of lightning flashed across the sky, startling the dinosaurs. They sprinted into the cramped cave. Rain poured down and the howling wind puffed violently, bending and twisting the trees. The nearby stream flooded and water gushed fiercely into the tiny cave, forcing the flock of dinosaurs to flee.

They soon reached a towering summit that was secure from the flood, but there were no caves for them to live in. After observing from the mountaintop, they agreed to head to a wide valley which was the nearest and warmest of all. They all scurried down the hill and were eager to find their new shelter.

The dinosaurs approached the valley. The air was pure and fresh. Peach blossoms were blooming all over the hills and fields – a majestic sea of rose and crimson. A cloud of butterflies and bees danced around the peach blossoms, drinking the nectar. A cerulean lagoon lay calmly in the valley like a mirror, reflecting the sapphire sky and the gorgeous peach blossoms. Everything was extraordinary. The dinosaurs spotted a gigantic cave on a hill, so they hurtled towards it. As they were proceeding towards the tremendous cave, an ear-splitting roar stung their senses and a massive tyrannosaur with razor claws and terrifying teeth stalked out of the pitch-dark cave. The tyrannosaur charged. The feathered dinosaurs were jolted into terror. They took to their heels at lightning speed as the tyrannosaur gave chase, hoping for a full stomach. The flock of dinosaurs used their knife-like claws to dig a deep hole and they squeezed in. The mud masked their smell, and soon the tyrannosaur gave up in dejection and trudged back to its cave.

Once they were sure they were safe, the dinosaurs sighed in relief and hopped out. They made up their mind that the valley was too dangerous and they should move towards a faraway pristine jungle where dinosaurs rarely strayed.

Leaving the valley, they could not believe their eyes! A vast desert blocked their path and they needed to cross it to reach the jungle. After a brief hesitation, they determined to speed across the boundless desert and reach their destination as quickly as they could – there were numerous predators in the desert. After hours of galloping, the dinosaurs were dehydrated and walked as slowly as a plant growing. Their throats went dry and they were desperate for water. When they were about to collapse, a colossal lake appeared in the distance. They dashed towards the crystal body of water and hurriedly took a mouthful, quenching their thirst. After a brief pause, they continued their journey and finally reached the jungle before dawn. A cave on a hillside made a perfect shelter. They were exhausted and dozed off the moment they arrived.

Daybreak. The dinosaurs rubbed their eyes and stretched themselves comfortably. As they opened their eyes, their jaws dropped and their eyes bulged. The cave's entrance was blocked by falling rocks and the dinosaurs were trapped. They immediately began scampering across the barrier, desperately looking for a channel they might be able to squeeze

through. Another boulder fell from above, nearly crushing two of them. Then another noticed a stream of light – the boulder had dislodged a pile of stones, leaving a narrow but definite escape route. They streamed through and collapsed onto the wet grass outside. Freedom.

They recommenced their search for shelter. They sprinted to the top of the hill, and discovered there was a gigantic savanna on the other side, but they worried that it was already occupied. They pondered for a long time, and finally decided to let a small team of dinosaurs explore. As they reached the frontier, they were over the moon! The bushes were laden with clusters of juicy wild berries for them to eat. The sun shone like gold dancing on a winding stream nearby, which provided a water source. The remainder of the dinosaurs sprang down the hill as well, some munching on the ripe berries and some plunging into the stream.

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“... for further exploration. So, to summarise: it seems extremely likely to my mind that the dinosaurs’ feathers were grey to protect themselves from the numerous ferocious predators. My research and scholarship has also led me to conclude that these creatures were able to fly not only well but for long periods, and that they therefore roosted in trees when they were not hunting rodents on the ground. Finally, and most importantly, what I can make out of the brain size, and the fact that this fossil was discovered alone, implies to me that they were resolutely solitary creatures, each finding it better to operate alone rather than slowing himself down through forming associations with his fellow animals. Thank you.”

The end of the paleontologist’s world-famous lecture series was met with deafening applause.

# The Great Escape

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Ho, Yuet Hei Kasie – 10*

Last summer holiday, two adventurous boys, Bill, ten, and Tim, eleven, embarked on an unforgettable journey to the Liaoning Museum. This museum was hosting a special exhibition featuring a remarkable dinosaur species named Sinosauropteryx, which translates to "China dragon bird." Little did they know, this would be the most thrilling day of their lives.

As they stepped into the museum, their eyes were glued to the fascinating fossils on display. Among them, the most impressive was the skeleton of a T-Rex, its giant bones towering above them. The sheer size of the T-Rex left them speechless; both boys stood frozen in awe.

"This is so cool!" Bill exclaimed, staring at the skeleton.

"Yeah! But I want to see more than just fossils," Tim replied excitedly. "Let's go explore!"

Driven by excitement, the boys ventured to the area where archaeologists searched for dinosaur fossils. To their amazement, luck was on their side that day. While exploring, something caught Tim's eye. He crouched down and carefully dug it out. "It says in the book that this is a T-Rex tooth!" he exclaimed. A whirlwind of emotions rushed through them—joy, disbelief, and thrill. Bill, momentarily speechless, stuttered, "What... How come?" Tim replied, "I don't know, but we found it!"

After their discovery, they rushed back to their hotel, carefully placing the tooth in a glass box. That night, as they admired their find, something extraordinary happened. A luminous ray of light flashed in front of them, and suddenly, a fairy appeared in the glass box. She wore a sparkling pink gown and a shiny tiara atop her long, silky blonde hair, holding a glowing magic wand.

"Let me out this instant, or else!" she shouted, her voice urgent. Bill and Tim, terrified, hurriedly opened the box. "We didn't mean to trap you, sorry," Tim stammered.

"Oh," the fairy said, her expression softening. "I'm Lily. As an apology gift, I will grant you three wishes." Bewildered, Bill scratched his head and asked, "Um... what should I wish for?"

"What about going to ancient Liaoning to see Sinosauropteryx?" suggested Tim, his eyes sparkling with excitement. Bill nodded. With a wave of her wand, Lily granted their wish. In an instant, they found themselves in a lush, green forest.

In this prehistoric world, the air was fresh, filled with sounds of rustling leaves and distant roars. After a moment, they realized they needed to use their second wish. Bill turned to Lily and asked, "Can you be our tour guide?"

"Alright, I'll show you some species," Lily said, leading them deeper into the landscape.

"Firstly, this is Sinosauropteryx," she said, pointing to a small, fluffy dinosaur resembling a raccoon, with bright orange feathers and curious eyes. As they continued their exploration, they encountered a gigantic dinosaur trotting nearby. Tim pointed at it, asking, "What is that?"

"This is a titanosaur," Lily explained. "It enjoys munching on leaves from tall trees." The boys watched in wonder as the titanosaur gracefully moved through the forest.

Afterward, Lily took them to a breathtaking spot filled with vibrant flowers and towering trees. Suddenly, they found themselves at the edge of a vast ocean. “Look!” Lily exclaimed as a massive swimming dinosaur emerged from the water. “This is a Mosasaurus.”

Bill, filled with curiosity, swam closer, eager to touch the creature. But Tim quickly grabbed his arm, pulling him back. “No! It’s too risky; it might hurt us!” Bill sighed, recognizing the wisdom in his friend’s caution.

After their ocean encounter, Lily soared into the sky, showing them various flying dinosaur species they had never seen in any encyclopedia. One particularly mysterious creature caught their attention: it had bright blue skin, two magnificent wings, and three enormous eyes. The boys snapped pictures with their phones, thrilled to document their adventure.

Tim turned to Lily and said, “I wish we could talk to dinosaurs.” With a wave of her wand, Lily replied, “Your wish is my command.” The boys ran toward a nearby Torosaurus and greeted it with a cheerful “Hi!”

The Torosaurus looked astonished and replied, “How did you learn to speak my language? And why are you so small?”

“Oh, don’t worry about that! Can I ride you with my best friend?” asked Bill eagerly. “Sure!” the Torosaurus replied. “I can take you to meet my friends. They’ll be just as amazed as I am!”

The dinosaur led them to its habitat, a beautiful area filled with lakes and lush vines. Bill pulled out his phone and took a group picture with the Torosaurus, capturing the moment forever. Just before they left, the Torosaurus warned them, “Be careful! Our king, the T–Rex, is really fierce. If you see him, run for your life!”

Thanking the Torosaurus for the warning, they continued their adventure. But soon, the ground began to shake fiercely. Suddenly, they heard loud thuds behind them. They turned to see the furious T–Rex charging toward them! Panic set in as the boys screamed and ran for their lives.

They dashed over mountains and across deserts, the T–Rex getting closer, its heavy footsteps shaking the ground. Tim yelled to Lily, “Please bring us back home!” Lily replied, “Sadly, I can only grant three wishes. Your wishes have all been used up!”

Just as the T–Rex lunged forward, ready to devour them, a loud ringing sound echoed around them. Bill and Tim jolted awake, finding themselves back in their hotel room. “I just had the most amazing dream!” Bill exclaimed. Tim, equally excited, added, “That we went to see dinosaurs!”

They exchanged curious glances, realizing they must have shared the same dream. Bill flicked through his camera roll and was surprised to find the exact picture he had taken. They looked at each other in disbelief and said together, “Could our adventure be real?”

Determined to find out the truth, they vowed to become dinosaur archaeologists, eager to search for those mysterious fossils and explore the wonders of the prehistoric world.



# Lost in Time: The Quest for the Chameleonosaurus

*St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School, Yui Hei, Li – 9*

During the Jurassic age, when dinosaurs were the dominant species on Earth, all creatures lived contentedly until a black hole suddenly appeared in the sky. It was a time portal that drew some dinosaurs into it, leading to the extinction of the remaining dinosaur species. Nonetheless, a handful of dinosaurs managed to survive and found themselves in the modern human age.

As the sun ascended in the sky, Sam let out a hearty yawn on the first day of summer holidays, eagerly anticipating meeting his friends. Hastily dressed, he hurried to the garden where his friends Ben, Jack, and John eagerly awaited him. "How about a game of tag?" he proposed, and everyone nodded in agreement. While John sought a hiding spot, he stumbled upon a sizable, mysterious hole. "Pause the game! I've discovered something enormous and enigmatic!" He called out, drawing his friends' immediate attention.

"Intriguing! I've never seen this before!" Jack remarked, suggesting, "could this be a secret passage to the underground? Let's imagine it's an adventure to the centre of the Earth!"

After venturing to the tunnel's end, the children stumbled upon a vast cave. They all stood in shocked silence, hardly believing their eyes. Not a bat, crocodile, or monster, but a genuine DINOSAUR! "Run for your life! Don't let it devour us!" John exclaimed in panic. As the children began to flee, the dinosaur implored, "Please don't leave! Sino require your assistance!" Astonished, the children turned back to face the dinosaur.

"Oh, I remember that it is a Sinoaucrpteryx from my brother's encyclopedia...but wait...how come you can speak?" Ben inquired. The dinosaur explained, "To be frank, Sino cannot speak human language, but somehow you humans share the same brain frequency in this space-time, allowing you humans to understand Sino's thoughts..." The dinosaur, calling itself Sino, continued, "a mysterious portal brought Sino and a group of three Chameleonosaurus to this era. Your task is to locate all three Chameleonosaurus and create a time portal to send us back to our time!"

Ben scratched his head in bemusement as he repeated the word "Chameleonosaurus" and asked, "Do you actually mean a hybrid of chameleon and dinosaur?" A huge grin spread across Sino's face as he explained, "Chameleonosaurus is a descendant of the chameleon, and this peculiar dinosaur has evolved the ability to not only change its color like a chameleon but also its physical appearance to mimic other animals. And fun fact – this is a new species that has yet to be discovered in Jiangxi Province, China, by you trivial humans." Sino proudly presented his other species.

Uncertain where their courage and bravery came from, Sam and his friends promised to help Sino without hesitation. Jack sighed, "But the big question is, where do we find Chameleonosaurus? I don't think we can easily find a needle in a haystack." John murmured, "If I were a Chameleonosaurus, I would need to quickly blend in with other animals to avoid detection...Ummm...the safest place would be..." All shouted in unison, "Nanchang Zoo!"

As the children hurried toward the Nanchang Zoo, excitement and anticipation filled the air. They began their journey with their favorite animal—the panda. Holding his arms together, Ben pretended cuddling a lovely panda and said, "How can people resist the cutest and fluffiest creature in the world?" Feeling impatient, Sam urged his friends went into the panda enclosure. Inside the serene panda habitat, there were at least ten playful pandas wandering, and Sam believed that Chameleonosaurus must resemble various animals it encountered so well that it was hard to distinguish it from outer appearance.

Then Sam spotted a playful baby panda that refused to feed on bamboo and kept using its exceptionally long tongue to search for insects. In a blink of an eye, the baby panda began to shift its form into a medium-sized lizard with scales shimmering in an array of colors, blending seamlessly with its surroundings like a living prism. Its large, expressive eyes caught sight of a juicy butterfly that had just landed on John's cap. With a simple leap, it landed on John's head and gulped the poor butterfly with delight. John felt a sudden strike on his head and cried, "Ouch! What are you doing, Sam?" Sam had just captured their first Chameleonosaurus in his backpack, smiling proudly.

The children were ecstatic as they realized they were one step closer to completing their mission. There were still two more Chameleonosaurus to locate but time was ticking... Remembering the shimmering scales of the Chameleonosaurus, an idea burst into Sam's mind — bubbly and bizarre, bright and brilliant. He immediately took out his ultraviolet light torch that he had used in his science project from his backpack. He trusted that the UV light would make the scales of the Chameleonosaurus reflect and shine, making them easier to spot.

As the children explored the zoo with the UV light in hand, the children carefully examined each animal enclosure, looking for any signs of shimmering scales. After a thorough search, they successfully spotted a flash of light coming from a salamander slithering in the muddy pond and a Sika deer skipping across the lawn.

Swiftly, Sam and his friends made their way back to the cave where they had first met Sino. With the camouflage skills of the three Chameleonosaurus intertwined with Sino's ancient knowledge and the children's bravery, everyone sensed that something special was happening — the air was filled with loud clangs, bangs and strange-coloured fumes as the mystical portal was once again activated! Sam and his friends watched in awe as the dinosaurs vanished one by one through the portal, leaving behind four precious sparkling crystals. These crystals were gifts from Sino, a token of gratitude for Sam and his friends' courageous help. "Thank you for saving Sino and Chameleonosaurus from extinction! Sino was so proud of you could find what makes you brave enough to leap towards the impossible...Farewell my friends!" Sino's voice echoed in the children's minds.

Sam felt a warm glow in his heart, realizing he had not only helped the dinosaurs but had also gained Sino's trust. Deep down, the children all knew they had been part of something truly extraordinary.

# The Important Lesson

*Stamford American School, Huang, Yuxuan Olivia –*

“I want to go home!” Jason begged.

“No,” replied Caroline. *How can he think I wanna be here? I worked hard so we can have a roof over our heads.*

BAM! Caroline slammed the howling window closed.

“Please! We’ve been in this museum for hours! It’s the new year.” Jason pleaded, but Caroline just ignored him.

Jason slumped. His face dropped, but there was nothing he could do.

Whoooooo.....the wind blew strongly towards him as he passed a window. However, he just ignored it, just as his sister ignored him.

*What is wrong with him? How does he not understand?*

PST...

“What was that?” Caroline asked.

PST...

“Jason, it’s not funny!” Caroline screamed, her voice echoing through the museum. *He’s so annoying.* Then she saw a glowing light. It was the brightest light in the museum.

Jason walked toward the light, but Caroline stopped him. Although he was annoying, she needed to protect him from any harm.

“Why bother stopping me? It’s none of your business!” Jason said in Caroline’s face, “I hate you! I’m not going to be your little brother anymore!”

Caroline grabbed Jason by the collar and dragged him away. However, the more she dragged the closer the light was. Jason didn’t move. As Caroline turned, she could see a feathered creature emerging from the light.

“Who are you?” A dinosaur asked, flapping her wings around, “If *Nian* knows you saw me, I will not live to see the fireworks on New Year’s Eve. Come with me!”

“Wow, a dinosaur!” gasped Jason. He stood up and proceeded to go with the feathered dinosaur, “Let me go, Caroline.”

“You’re not going with this weird creature,” Caroline replied.

“Huh,” The dinosaur scoffed. She raised her head high, and looked down at Caroline, “I am a Microraptor–gui!”

For once, Caroline felt weak, she wasn’t in control. She didn’t know what to do.

“Just come with me, or be killed.” The dinosaur declared with a sinister smile.

“Wow!” Jason gasped.

His eyes widened, after a blinding flash of light, they arrived in a well vegetated forest. There were roars loud and strong, and squeaks small and weak. There were dinosaurs that everyone knew, but also some that weren’t imaginable. They were in the early Cretaceous period.

“We need to run,” Caroline whispered.

Jason rolled his eyes and continued to follow the Microraptor–gui.

“I’m not leaving,” Jason declared.

*What’s the dinosaur going to do?*

As they entered a maze–like forest, the dinosaur told them to stay close behind, but Caroline wasn’t going to listen to some dinosaur. When the Microraptor–gui was talking, she yanked Jason into the woods and ran as fast as she could. However, when she turned back, Jason was gone. The dinosaur took Jason.

“Jason!” Caroline yelled at the top of her lungs. She sprinted towards her brother. Nevertheless, she was too late and too slow. *What can I do now?* All there was were trees, the blazing sun and a flock of dinosaurs that looked just like the Microraptor–gui.

“They aren’t all bad, right?” Caroline thought, as she desperately hollered, “Dinosaurs, can you take me to my brother! Please!”

The dinosaurs didn’t bother taking a look and ignored her. At that moment, Caroline had very mixed feelings. “I’ve gotta catch up,” she quietly said as she continued sprinting in the direction of that Microraptor–gui.

Minutes later, she ran into a flock of Sinosauropteryx. *Maybe they will help me, maybe they won’t, but I still have to try.* She slowly walked towards the dinosaurs in fear. They could eat her at any moment. However, they could also save her. She thought about how Jason might be in fear as well and how she had been too controlling to him.

“Hey!” She called out, “Can you follow that Microraptor–gui? I need to find my brother!”

The dinosaurs looked around.

“Sure,” one of them told her.

“Yes!” She squealed, jumping up and down. She had never been so excited in her life. The kind dinosaurs let her go on their backs. As they took off, the Sinosauropteryx carrying Caroline felt rain. Actually it wasn’t a rain cloud. It was Caroline.

“Are you okay?” He asked.

“No,” Caroline shook her head and murmured, “I was so mean to my brother. All I wanted was for him to be gone, but now that he is gone...” Caroline couldn’t continue without bursting into a cry.

“I know how you feel, but that’s why we’re going after him, right?” He smiled at her.

“My mom always told me ‘share blessings together, face difficulties together’, celebrate together! Here we are, as always, celebrating the new year.”

By the time they landed, it was dark. They were barely able to see. They quietly followed the Microraptor–gui into a futuristic bunker.

“Wow,” Caroline gasped. It wasn’t like anything she’d seen before. Since the dinosaurs couldn’t fit, she went in alone.

She sneaked into the laboratory, where she spotted her clueless brother with the Microraptor–gui. She was dragging Jason down into deeper darkness...

*How didn’t he figure anything out yet?* Caroline followed them down a flight of never ending stairs until they reached a blinding room with lots of equipment.

*Why isn’t Jason talking? Maybe he’s being controlled.* She went closer, and closer but suddenly...

Click! The lights went off.

When Caroline opened her eyes, she was in her bedroom. She looked around and saw Jason. It was like nothing had happened.

“Why are you staring at me?” Jason asked.

“No reason,” Caroline answered quietly, “Should we invite mom and dad for dinner? It’s the new year.”

“Yes! I haven’t seen mom and dad in years!” Jason exclaimed.

During the reunion, Caroline thought about the dinosaurs, and the important lesson she learned. Was that all real or was it just a dream?

# The Right Choice

*Stamford American School, Lai, Cynthia –*

With the hot sun shining down on Shannon's face, it was hard for her to see the little bluebird which she just rescued. It was lucky Shannon was outside during the new year. She was supposed to help her mother with the feast happening that night. The bird was well hidden in the flower bed before Shannon found it, and now it was lying peacefully in the willow basket in her hands. After putting it inside her bedroom, Shannon returned to the backyard, wanting to discover why the bluebird had fallen. After taking a close look at the oak tree, Shannon heard something else that worried her. It was a peep from behind a rose bush. A blue feather fluttered across the yard. Shannon jumped up and grabbed it, and with that, she felt herself spinning and spinning, and then it ended just as quickly as it had started.

*Thunk.* Shannon landed on her back. She felt dazed as she looked around. Then she saw it, a creature she had only seen in a museum. It was a dinosaur, a Microraptor gui!

"Hello, my name is Mike," it said, "and I have been given the task to go to the world of humans to fetch whoever is the worthiest to complete a particular mission, which is to defeat an enemy. And your act of kindness showed me that you are the right one. So be prepared."

Shannon felt confused, "But who is the enemy?"

"He is a dragon named Hong, and he wants to take over the world of dinosaurs because he thinks he's better than everyone else."

With that, Shannon felt herself being lifted up again, and before she could worry about what was going to happen next, she landed.

She was in a forest in the middle of thousands of lush green trees three times as big as the ones back in the human world! Suddenly the ground started to shake.

"Hong has arrived!" Mike exclaimed as he pulled Shannon behind an azalea bush. There Hong was, his snake-like body casting a long shadow across the clearing.

"Now's your chance to defeat him!" Mike whispered urgently as he gave Shannon's arm a tiny shove. Shannon almost tumbled out into the clearing, but she took three steps back and accidentally stepped on Mike's foot! Mike squawked in surprise and stumbled forward. Shannon watched in horror as Mike stumbled into Hong's sight. A slow creepy smile spread across Hong's face, and as quickly as lightning, he snatched Mike up with his enormous claws and held him up to his face.

"Seems like your friend had abandoned you to save herself," Hong said as he fixed his glowing red eyes at Shannon, who was still crouching low under the bush. Shannon realized that there was no point in her hiding anymore, because the dragon could see through the bush easily with his piercing red eyes.

At that moment, Shannon seriously considered running and saving herself. But then she remembered why Mike had picked her to defeat Hong. It was because she was kind. She lunged towards Hong.

“Don’t you dare!” She yelled. And then it happened. Before she could even blink, Hong raised his hand and shouted a spell. Shannon watched motionlessly as a thin layer of ice started to form around Mike’s body. It seemed to be growing thicker and thicker by the second.

Seeing Shannon’s frantic face, Hong said, “How about this? I’ll make you a deal. If you answer this riddle correctly, you can have your friend back. But if you answer it incorrectly, you will become an ice statue too.”

Shannon felt a chill run down her spine. But then she took a look at her frozen friend and replied firmly, “Go for it.”

A sneer crossed Hong’s crooked face, “What is the most important thing you could have in your life?”

Shannon stood there for a second, then the answer came to her. It was so easy.

“The most important thing in life is a true friend,” Shannon said slowly as she darted a glance at Mike.

“Wrong!” Hong yelled gleefully.

“Then what is the right answer?” Shannon asked, her whole body trembling.

“It is power! Nothing is better than having control over everything and everyone!” Hong boomed.

“No!” Shannon yelled as she felt a thin layer of ice forming around her own body. In a few moments, it would all be over. Shannon would be frozen too and she would never see her parents again. But even if she knew that, she still used the last bits of energy left in her body to yell as loudly as she could.

“A takeover isn’t how to get what you want, and even if you have control over the world, nobody will think you’re great. It’s up to you to decide what you really want.” She said as she was frozen completely.

The cold look in Hong’s eyes seemed to have faded a little as he gently opened his mouth. A ray of golden sunlight poured into his throat. A warm feeling passed through Hong’s heart. A long time ago, his heart had been frozen by his evil cousin and Shannon’s answer seemed to have broken the spell that caused the tragedy.

“Perhaps you are right. Perhaps I should be a little nicer to people.”

He waved his claw above Shannon and Mike, and they instantly started to defrost!

“I guess the first step for me is to send you home, and thank you for the lesson you’ve taught me. I guess you had the right answer after all,” Hong said.

Before Shannon had the chance to say goodbye to Mike, she was back in the yard.

“Shannon, come inside,” Her mom called.

Shannon smiled. She’s going in to prepare for the new year, a fresh new start. As she walked through the door, she slipped the sleek blue feather out of her pocket. It was glinting, and reminding her of a heart-warming adventure.

# Mountain Yong

*Stamford American School, Nie, Alice – 9*

Hi, my name is Caroline, a member of a three-person team called *the Adventurers*. The Adventurers contained a commander, my best friend Gabriel, and myself. My commander ordered us to climb Mountain Yong (that's what he called it, because he said the word Yong means Courage) and put up an Adventurers poster. When we heard that we were going, Gabriel and I immediately started packing.

The mountain contained 5 sections, where at the end of every section, we would encounter a dinosaur. My research showed that if we reached the peak of the mountain, we would consider ourselves as one of the only groups to finish climbing Mountain Yong. If we succeeded, our commander would give us a *hong bao* of \$10,000. Gabriel and I really wanted to use it for travelling to Beijing, our long missed hometown. We left Beijing in 2019 to join the Adventurers to look for Chinese herbs to cure cancer. We haven't been back home since then.

We climbed up the rough slope. The first two sections were super easy, so easy, that I questioned myself a billion times how Mountain Yong got its name. But the commander had warned us that the danger could be in the dark. I wanted to prepare for the third section. Gabriel and I picked up some natural weapons, such as twigs and sharp rocks. While Gabriel was picking up a sharp rock, she was about to topple.

"Keep your balance!" I yelled loudly.

"I cannot get back up!" Gabriel shouted.

I ran over to help Gabriel.

"I can't even bear to lose you." I told her.

"Thanks for helping me," Gabriel quietly said.

A group of Microrapter guis came attacking us while Gabriel tried to stand up. I raised two twigs in guardian position in case one Microrapter flew down.

A few minutes went by and...

*Cha!*

A Microrapter swooped past me, blood squirting out of it. But at the same time, another one had bitten my forearm. Blood poured out from the wound.

I expected I would live through this journey. But I guess not. I swiped down the two twigs and raised the same twigs to get another Microrapter.

...

Once the battle was over. I had a scar on my forearm. Gabriel looked at it, then she looked into my eyes.

"We have to survive. I can't lose you." Gabriel whispered.

Gabriel and I have been best friends since we were young kids. We promised we would protect each other. But that promise could break anytime.

"C'mon, Si Yang. You're bleeding. Let's get to the peak quickly, so we can go down and get your wound fixed up." Gabriel sounded terrified.

"N-no. It's okay, Gabriel. Let's do this slowly, and steadily. D-don't worry about my wound," I replied calmly, "I can just grab a Chinese Arborviae leaf and wrap it around."

"Alright," Gabriel conceded.

We kept climbing up, and after a few more minutes...

*Roar!!!*

Behold, the terrifying, gigantic, sapphire Mamenchisaurus.

*How will Gabriel and I defeat this Mamenchisaurus?* I wondered. The Mamenchisaurus charged, facing me. I got my hands reaching out with twigs.

“Did we bother you?” I shouted loudly.

While we were fighting, Gabriel picked something up.

“More weapons, more luck!” she exclaimed.

I looked at her direction and widened my eyes.

“Gabriel!” I yelled.

“Si Ya.. AHHHHHHHHH!!!”

Gabriel lost her balance and fell. Her head hit the edge of a sharp rock, and it poked through the back of her head.

The pain was so intense that tears automatically ran out of Gabriel’s eyes. Her blood covered the rock. I slowly pulled her head out and hugged her.

“It’s okay, Gabriel,” I told her, “Just—stay with me, you can’t die here!”

“Si Yang,” Gabriel whispered, “Climb to the peak. I— I don’t think I can make it.”

“Gabriel, don’t say that.”

“Y—you h—have t—to com—complete the mission, g—get down, and treat your wound as soon as possible.”

“Don’t close your eyes, Gabriel! We have to survive. Together!”

Everything became dark. *Nooooooooooooo!!!* Tears were running down my cheeks. Gabriel left me with a slingshot and all the sharp rocks she collected in our journey.

I researched on the Mamenchisaurus. I could identify what their weaknesses are.

...

After many hours, I finally defeated Mamenchisaurus. *Hope was all I needed.* My scar was healing. Everything was fine. It was all going the right way until the fifth section. The fifth section’s slope was the roughest, its dinosaur the **strongest**. But still, I needed to fulfill what Gabriel said.

*We have to survive!* The words in my head didn’t stop repeating. Hope, hope, hope.

I was exhausted. My legs were sore, and I really needed to drink water, but Gabriel passed away, so I have nobody to help me.

Hours of thirst passed. Without water or anything to drink, I continued. I can’t just give up because I’m thirsty!

*Roar!*

*This is the last dinosaur. Beat it, and go down!* There was a gigantic, silver Monolophosaurus. It charged like a fully grown hostile creature. It was swaying its neck and biting everything in the sight.

“I... can’t... LOSE!!!” I yelled.

I used Gabriel’s slingshot to target the sharp rocks at the Monolophosaurus. *Remember its weakness.* One rock pierced through the Monolophosaurus’ throat. It suddenly collapsed, and died.

“I—I defeated it! YEAH! I won!” I celebrated with my echoes floating in the air.

Anything that means scary could be used to describe Mountain Yong, but it’s all worth it. However, this story is my warning for you to never ever climb Mountain Yong.

A few days later, I was back to the Adventurers’ base to claim my prize. I did use it to go to Beijing, but I was all by myself. I got on the plane alone, with nobody to talk to. I’ve safely kept Gabriel’s slingshot and one very last piece of sharp rock. *Gabriel, you are my best friend forever, and I really want to share my victory with you...*



# Mono

*Stamford American School, Zhang, Ying Fong Audrey – 9*

“Oh, I gotta water the flowers!” Evelyn remembered. She quickly ran outside and took the grey rusty watering pot.

“Drip, drip, drip.” Water flowed through the pedals and the leaves.

Suddenly, a voice shouted from inside of her house, “Evelyn, did you water the flowers yet?”

“Yes mom!” Evelyn replied.

“Well, come back inside before dinner!”

“Okay!”

Evelyn decided to visit her favourite spot in the backyard first, her tree house. As usual, she sprinted towards it , but this time there was something different. On her way, she tripped and fell.

“Darn rock!” Evelyn shouted.

As she was about to kick it, she noticed something. It was shaped like a giant potato. As she touched it, it felt smooth.

“This is not a rock or a potato. This is an egg!” Evelyn realized.

She quickly ran back to the house, hiding it under her jacket.

“I can’t show anyone this. It looks magical!” Evelyn whispered to herself.

She took the egg and went to her room. She gently placed the egg on the table. After a while, when she was writing her homework on her desk, a light appeared.

Suddenly she heard a small voice, “Hi!”

“Am I dreaming?” Evelyn asked in shock to herself.

“Who are you?” the small voice asked.

“I am umm... Evelyn.” Evelyn replied.

In a blink, a dinosaur hopped out of nowhere.

“Oh Evelyn! The king asked me to take you to the kingdom!” the dinosaur said.

“Wait! WHO are YOU and what kingdom?!!” Evelyn said in a scared voice.

“The dinosaur kingdom of the Forest,” the dinosaur replied.

“Wait, are you a Monolophosaurus?” Evelyn asked, remembering a photo of this dinosaur in her favorite Chinese archaeology book.

“Yep!” the Monolophosaurus replied.

“What about I just name you Mono?” Evelyn asked.

“Sure!” Mono replied happily.

*Swoosh!* A pink portal appeared in front of them.

“Oh there it is!” Mono exclaimed.

“What is going on?” Evelyn asked with her jaw open.

Mono pushed Evelyn in the portal!

“Thump!” Evelyn landed on her knees.

“Where did you bring me Mono? Wherever I am, it does not look fun.”

“You will see!” Mono replied.

“Okay...” Evelyn said hesitantly.

“Follow me!” Mono exclaimed.

Without a warning, Mono ran to a stone bridge.

“Hey, wait up!” Evelyn shouted.

“Catch up then!” Mono waved at Evelyn.

As they ran, Evelyn could see a glimpse of the Summer Palace.

“Is that a palace?” Evelyn asked.

“Yep!” Mono replied.

Soon, the palace was right in front of them.

“What is this place?” Evelyn wondered.

Mono entered the palace with a big smile. When Evelyn walked in, she was amazed by how beautiful it was even if it was kinda rusty. As Evelyn continued walking, she heard a *Thump!* Before she knew it, Mono was holding on to her leg tightly.

“What’s wrong?” Evelyn asked Mono.

“There..there’s a...monster!” Mono said, holding on to Evelyn’s leg so tightly that Evelyn’s leg started to feel sore.

Suddenly, a bunch of dinosaurs ran to the big golden shiny exit door as quickly as cheetahs. Almost trampled alive, Evelyn and Mono stood up.

“Hey, I think we need to leave!” Evelyn said to Mono.

When they were about to leave, they heard a voice yelling, “HELP!”

“Your majesty, are you okay?” Mono asked in a shaking voice. *Who was Mono talking to?*

Evelyn finally saw where the voice was coming from, the back of the castle. There was a black monster looking like slime with two horns. In the monster’s hand, she saw another dinosaur, a lot bigger than Mono with a crown on his head. Evelyn realized that was the king, but he wasn’t just any type of dinosaur. He was a T-rex.

“No way,” Evelyn whispered to herself. Those types of dinosaurs are super strong. *How could he be captured?*

Evelyn froze. When Mono was about to whack the monster, he only hit a big puff of black smoke. The king landed on his feet. The monster was gone.

“Thank you, human,” The king gratefully said.

“What was that?” Evelyn asked.

“That monster used to be a guardian of the kingdom,” the king replied. He fell inside a pit with dark magic, and it turned his heart evil. He became a monster. I can create a portal for you to trap him. Here’s the amethyst I awarded him when he helped found the dinosaur kingdom. Pass it to him and see if you can revive his memory.”

A blue portal appeared in front of them. Mono led Evelyn into the portal.

*Crash!* Evelyn landed. She saw a huge shadow and slowly looked up. There it was, the monster.

“What are you doing here?” the Monster grunted.

“Snap out of it!” Mono said.

“Remember who you are, you are the guardian of the kingdom,” Evelyn shouted, holding up the amethyst in her hand.

“I am the guardian...” the monster remembered.

A flash of light almost blinded them and the monster turned back to the guardian he was supposed to be.

“Thank you, human,” the guardian said.

Before Evelyn knew it, she was sitting on the green fresh lawn in her yard.

“Mono, we did it!” but there was no reply.

She looked around, Mono was gone. She looked up to her treehouse and asked herself if it was real. When she was in the middle of it, her mom yelled, “Evelyn, dinner time!”

She ran back to the house and busted through the door.

“Wash your hands first!”

“Okay!” Evelyn replied.

She dashed to her bedroom and checked her table. The broken egg shell was still there. She put it in a glass jar next to her bed. She will always remember Mono, and the awesome adventure.

# The Terror of the Dinosaurs

*Stamford American School Hong Kong, Ngan, Lai Yan – 11*

Dr Mei Ling and the team wanted to venture into the deep forest, and found out all about the dinosaurs. She knew that if they discovered the fossil they would be awarded. Even though people said it was dangerous, they also knew this would be the greatest discovery of all time. Little did they know what was going to come.

In the heart of the Chinese mountains, where the grass grew endlessly and the sun beat down, a secret lay buried for millions of years. It was a secret that would soon be discovered, unleashing a terror that had slumbered since the dawn of time.

It began with a team of intrepid palaeontologists, led by the brilliant and ambitious Dr Mei Ling. She had come to this remote corner of China, drawn by whispers of a remarkable discovery – the remains of a previously unknown species of dinosaur, one that had evolved in isolation, far from the prying eyes of the world.

The team began to carefully excavate the site, they were struck by the sheer size and power of the fossils they uncovered. These were not the familiar Tyrannosaurus nor Triceratops, but something altogether more ancient and primal. The bones spoke of a creature that had ruled this land with an iron claw, a fearsome predator that had no equal. As it looked like a *Microraptor*.

As the dig progressed, the team began to sense that they were not alone. Strange noises echoed across the desert, and the air crackled with an unseen energy. The local villagers, who had long avoided this cursed place, warned the palaeontologists to turn back, to leave the dead to their rest. The villagers who were now trembling with fear stammered, “Do not go there! Once you go, there’s no way out.”

Undaunted, Dr Mei Ling pressed on, driven by her insatiable curiosity and the promise of scientific glory. She was determined to reveal the secrets of this lost world, no matter what the cost was. The villagers sighed “good luck, your going needs it.” A shiver ran down Dr Mei Ling's spine, she didn’t know what that meant and she did not want to find out.

Continued with the evacuation, the team made a startling discovery – the remains of not one, but several of these ancient behemoths, all gathered in a single, massive graveyard. The implications were staggering, for it suggested that these creatures had lived and died together, in complex social structures that defied the traditional understanding of dinosaurs’ behavior.

With each new revelation, the sense of unease among the team sprang up. The air grew heavier, the shadows pondered, and the grass rattled. One night, the horror began.

It started with strange, unearthly howls that echoed across the mountains, sending shivers down the spines of the palaeontologists. “Should we have listened to them, they told us to never come. We should have just listened.” Dr Margaret said with a trembling voice. “No!” screamed Dr Ming Ling!

Then, the ground began to tremble, something vast and powerful was stirring beneath the surface. The team huddled in their tents. Terrified and uncertain, they caught a glimpse of something moving in the darkness – a small feathered creature, its eyes glowing with an unholy light.

The team found out that the creature was a Microraptor. It was a small but swift creature. They were horrified. Lots quivered and whispered, “should we leave?” Even though thoughts started to pour in Dr Ming Ling, she knew the Microraptor was dangerous but she did not dare to stop looking further. They could never discover the secret in the deep forest.

In the days that followed, the team was beset by a series of terrifying encounters. Strange, shadowy figures stalked them in the night, and the very earth seemed to come alive, as if the ancient bones were stirring to life. One by one, the team members disappeared, their fate unknown, until only Dr Ling remained. Her once—brilliant mind now clouded by fear and desperation.

As she stood alone in the vast, empty expanse of the Chinese mountains, Mei Ling came to the realization that – the dinosaurs had never truly died. They had merely slumbered, waiting for the day when they would rise again and reclaim their rightful place as the masters of this world.

And now, with the ancient bones unearthed and the seals broken, the ancient ones were awakening. Their roars echoing across the mountains, like the sound of a thousand thunderstorms. Mei Ling knew that she had to find a way to stop them, to put these monstrous creatures back to their eternal rest, before they could unleash their fury upon an unsuspecting world.

With a heavy heart, she turned and fled, her footsteps echoing across the grass as she raced against time, desperate to warn the authorities and rally a force capable of confronting the horror that had been unleashed. For the fate of the world now rested on her shoulders, and she knew that she could not fail.

The roar of the ancient ones had sounded, and the battle for the future of humanity had begun.

# The Teco

*Stamford American School Hong Kong, Shi, Min Xi – 10*

A mystery shadow running to the forest with a small figure that was barking loudly, “Come on Daisy, only a little bit more,” said Janna. Her pet dog Daisy was happily barking as they raced each other through the end of the forest. Janna and Daisy had always loved nature's secrets, they laughed as they ran. But with a flick of rain the tiniest drop of the rain has dropped on Janna’s head.

“Daisy get ready!” yelled Janna, as soon as they ran to the edge of the forest. Janna wasn’t prepared. Instead, she stared at the dark cloud that was transformed into a giant beast. Janna had never seen such a thing like this before! But Janna suddenly fell asleep.

When Janna woke up, she wasn’t in the forest anymore. Everywhere was filled with big houses. She saw a giant figure running toward Janna, the figure stopped and looked down. “Oh, my tomato! Who are you and why are you so small?”

“I...I...” Janna stumbled on the words as she spoke.

“Well, don’t just stand there. Hide!” the Thyreophora said.

A black shadowy figure appeared searching for its prey as soon as it’s gone the Thyreophora let out a gasp.

“Psst Sara psst Sara!” a shadowy figure hissed.

The Thyreophora looked around, seeing the shadowy figure. “What are you doing here?” asked Sara. The shadowy figure replied, “come with me or else the emperor will kill you!” Without a further ado, the Thyreophora said, “ride on my back.” Without any words, Janna carefully climbed on the Thyreophora back.

Everything around Janna seemed so blurry, she soon closed off her eyes.

“WOW! What is this place?” asked Janna as if she had never seen something this cosy before. Everything seemed so warm.

“Would you like a cup of peppermint tea?” said a voice that also sounded very warm.

“Ah! What and who are you?”

“Me? I am Nola, my species is T-Rex.”

“But I thought dinosaurs were extinct a long time ago? How did you guys survive?” Asked Janna.

“Nola, do you mind helping out?” said Nola's mom. “Grab the traditional rose tea.”

Nola groaned, “what is rose tea?” Asked Janna. “Oh! It's just a prophecy tea” said Nola. Maya has no more to ask so she zipped her mouth.

After a few hours Nola’s mom met Jann, Nola’s mom insisted on staying here until tomorrow. As the tradition begins Janna quickly gobbled up the rose tea in front of her. And suddenly she was in a black dark room.

“Wake up Janna! Janna!” said Nola.

“Huh?” said Janna.

“What did you see?” asked Nola.

Later on, when the ritual ended Janna followed Nola upstairs and explained everything to her. “Hmm why don’t you first sleep. Tomorrow we’ll have a field trip and then we can go into the castle.”

As the next day at Bonneville School, Nola told Janna to go in the backpack.

“Alright class, we arrived at the emperor palace. Remember that you should not touch anything. The emperor kindly offered us to visit his palace, so I want you to be on your best behavior.” Said Mrs. G. “Okay!” Said the whole class. As the whole class went inside the palace, Nola secretly went the other way and Janna peaked out the backpack and heard something, “On the day of firelight it will be doomsdays at Minacious City!”

Janna kept these sentences in mind later on when they got back to Nola’s house. She told Nola what she heard. Nola didn’t listen.

As day passed, The Day of Firelight became closer. When the Day of Firelight finally came everyone in the Mendacious City except for one or maybe two. It was a gorgeous day at The Day of Firelight. The light in Mendacious City was as warm as the sun. People sang together dancing together, but somewhere beneath the happiness, a darkness appeared. They travelled beneath the light seeking for its prey. As they finally found their prey.

“Come on, Nola! There must be something suspicious around Mendacious City. Everyone is acting weird lately.” Said Janna.

“Oh! come on. You are worrying too much! Plus, Sara will come over here, she can help you if you need anything.” Said Nola. A moment later, there was a knock on the door when Janna opened the door. It was Sara. She was wearing a backpack that was filled with a bunch of papers and one pencil and said, “I am ready to solve the case.”

When they finally got to the street of fire they realized the ceremony already started. As the emperor slowly walked up and announced, “Today we shall overcome the darkness! Today we shall step into the future, we shall see the light of the future, we will never obey the darkness. As of tonight it is time!”

Everyone cheered except Nola, Janna and Sara. They didn’t cheer for an unknown reason but the emperor continued, “you guys give me the courage to show the power I have. As for now, I will take us to the future.” As the emperor raised up his hand, a darkness appeared forming a dark cloud as the cloud got darker and bigger.

Suddenly Janna recognized this cloud as the storm that she first saw at the edge of the forest with Daisy, her pet dog! Janna yelled, “stop!” But, a sudden lightning struck.

When Janna opened her eyes, she was nowhere but she saw those balls. When Janna touched it, she felt the warmth and she knew that they wished they were beautiful. But a shadow appeared and every wish became black. Janna knew what this meant but she woke up.

She saw herself being a phoenix. She rushed toward the emperor and burst him into flames, the emperor was not defeated but he managed to escape with his only remaining magic when Janna was not noticing.

Until this day, the mystery remained.

# Yizé and The Dinosaurs

*Stamford American School Hong Kong, Sutkauskis, Adomas – 10*

Once upon a time, there was a farmer named Yizé in the fields of The Farms Of Good Luck. He worked his heart out trying to get coins so he could feed his carnivorous and omnivorous animals. And there, he was farming; doing his own business, caring for the animals, going on his personal phone, and searching up ways — *ways to get more seeds for both animal and personal reasons*. As known as, to make veggies and, feed thy pet bird and thyself, where it would show absolutely nothing on topic, just some Shakespeare quotes.

But one day as he was looking around on his phone, he looked up and gasped. He found a dinosaur! It was on eBay for 33 cents. “My! That’s a great deal!” he exclaimed with excitement. He bought it and it looked cool on his shelf. While he was farming the next day, his guard dog farted and a Lufengosaurus jumped out of the ground! With a disgusted expression on his face.

“What was that smell?! I thought it was a fart bomb, but if everyone in the world farted, put it in a bag. Let it explode into the atmosphere!”

He started to run away due to the smell. “Nah, I’m outta here!” He shouted while he was running. Yizé was confused but continued his job to get coins to feed the animals and himself.

The next day, he went back to work. Yizé farted about 6 times, when he was still inside the barn. Those six farts became another Lufengosaurus spawn place because his farts then awoke **ANOTHER** Lufengosaurus. A female Lufengosaurus shouted at the fact that Yizé could recognize a male from a female. “Wang luftao gui?!? Come back!” The dinosaur shouted, flapping her wings quickly. And, she ran away. Yizé initially thought that “Wang luftao gui” was the male's name, little did he care about it. It was never his business.

He went outside, seeing that the sun was weird in some ways. He squinted and realised that it was the usual sun. But, there was a dinosaur jumping in front of the sun. “Wait a second, was that a dinosaur jumping in front of the sun?!?” Yizé exclaimed. Then he thought a solar eclipse was happening but NO, MORE dinosaurs descended from the sky.

Yizé was curious, so he went to see what was going on! He got his, his, WELL. He brought nothing because his barn was barren, just like his phone because no one knows, and or, hates this guy! Mostly everyone doesn’t know him, but the people who did know him, hate him for his oddities. He didn’t do anything wrong. Even Steam, a mobile and computer website and application that accepts everyone, won’t let him in! But all these didn’t bother him, as he started his journey in his Toyota GR Yaris RZ High Performance Kalle Rovanperä Edition. I’m kidding, he used a pig, and a carrot on a stick (referencing from the Minecraft).

Why? He played Minecraft and thought. This would have worked, but it didn't. The pig ate the carrot. (Props to this pig!)

So he just walked. He saw dinosaurs running, his feet starting to sore, the humongous buttes and cactuses of the Gobi Desert, and his phone at 1%. But then, he started to see something strange, wedding balloons in the sky. And not just any balloons, celebrities balloons! They had everyone from Yang Yang to Bai Lu! He checked the news and no celebrities were married and definitely not in the Gobi desert! He thought those were old balloons but no celebrities were getting married in the Gobi desert area in a span of 300 years!



“Wait a sec, celebrities existed in 1725?” Yizé questioned. Well, he just walked, walked more and found a white matte golf cart and gasoline in a garage. “Umm, is anyone here?” Yizé questioned while looking at the golf cart and panning left to right, up and down. “I guess not!” He exclaimed cheerfully. So he went in, put in the gasoline and then found out he had to pay.

“Bro, what is this?” He angrily shouted as he looked at the 1,000,000 Yuan bill. But then he found 1,000,000 Yuan on the floor as a care package from the sacred Gobi desert watchers. “Get those dinos, Yizé!” The watchers exclaimed. “Got it!” Yizé exclaimed back at them.

As he paid it, he realised that it went 189 kph! “Ok... Here we go!” Yizé screamed with joy. He went on and on then a Microraptor gui came swooping down and up. “Hmmm must be a special occasion for the dinos!” Yizé stated.

Then after 3 hours of driving 567 km, he saw the dino party. He walked up and questioned the dinos, “Hey! The watchers wanted me to come here and catch you. I’m sorry if I ruined the party with the balloons.” The dinos looked back and one replied, “Oh no no, this is our party for when we turn into fossils!” Yizé, shocked, nodded and then a Microraptor gui came swooping down swiftly and hitting him in the head. He fell on the floor, as the world started to fade...

“Uhh, what happened?” Yizé woke up in his bed, with a confused look, while the roosters called in the morning. “Was it a dream?” Yizé questioned himself. Then his phone rang with a message, DINOSAUR FOSSILS WERE FOUND IN A PARTY FORMATION IN THE GOBI DESERT.

“What?” Yizé questioned. “Was it a dream?” He started to question everything he went through. The dinos, the money, the farts but most importantly, the party.

The party stayed on his mind and whenever he saw news about dinosaurs, he thought about... “The Party”. “Hey farmer?” A piece of grass stated, “Yeah?” Yizé replied, “Have you been drinking the sacred grass milk used for sleep?” The grass questioned, “Yeah I did, is there a problem?” Yizé replied. “Well... it’s expired” the grass stated, “OH N—”.

# Bob's Adventure

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Ardisson, Raphael – 9*

One day, this kid named Bob was coming back from school. Bob had to walk through the deep, dark forest to get back home. He was very tired when he was about to reach home when he found a dinosaur. At first, Bob couldn't believe it, and he thought he was hallucinating. He ran as fast as he could, and as soon as Bob arrived, he shouted. "Mom, Dad." Mom and Dad were frightened until they realized nothing was there. The next day, he tried to find the dinosaur, and he named him James. Bob started to feed James every day, and they became best friends. Bob dropped out of school to feed James. His mom and dad noticed he hadn't been going to school recently and forced him to go back to school.

Bob and James stayed together for 5 years. One day when Bob was coming back from school, He saw somebody was trying to take James away. Bob ran like lightning to tell his mom and dad when he reached there Bob shouted. "Mom, Dad, somebody is trying to steal my dinosaur!" Bob's Mom and dad rushed down the stairs and ran outside with Bob. By the time they arrived, James had been taken. As soon as Bob saw this he was very worried.

Bob did not give up, he put up posters all over the city that said to dial this number 56347822. The very next day, An old wrinkly man called the phone and said. "I know where James is," Bob said. "Good." The man said, "What's your address?" Bob said. "At the end of the deep dark forest." The old man said. "It's scary, but I'll come tomorrow." The next day, The old man showed up.

When Bob opened the door immediately, Bob asked, "Where is James?" The old man replied, "International Laboratory Reptiles." Bob said shockingly, "The International Laboratory Reptiles, I thought that was one of the best in the world why would they do such a thing." The old man said, "Because recently they have gone bankrupt, so they need some money." Bob said, "Mom, Dad, let's go now." They left in their car to go to the International Laboratory Reptiles. When they arrived, they put on their dinosaur costumes and pretended to be dinosaurs. When a guard saw them, he took them in, and Bob stole the keys, and they locked him up with James. Bob was so happy, but he couldn't react. When all the guards left for a lunch break, Bob, James, Mom, and Dad all escaped, but the only problem was how James got in the car Bob said, "He will have to run." Mom and Dad agreed James ran as fast as he could to keep up. When they arrived home, they fed James instantly and Bob gave him a big hug.

## Meng Yao – A Beautiful Jade

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Ashokchakravarthi, Akshatha – 10*

“No! “I, Jessie Wang Lee screamed. It was a lovely day, and the picturesque sun was smiling down at the calm earth below. But I wasn’t feeling elated at all at this frustrating moment. I was doing fossil hunting in the beach opposite to my house and this is the third time someone called me for something just when I was so close to finding a fossil, may be of an undiscovered dinosaur. I just love dinosaurs, they’re my favorite things in the world. If I lived when dinosaurs existed, I could’ve magically turned into a dinosaur. I was just daydreaming about this when my sister Lenna interrupted me. “Hey fossil hunter, Mom is calling you for breakfast” she screamed showing of her missing tooth. Mm! It was pasta. My sister screamed to sit in the highchair for babies even though she was already seven. “Lily, what are you daydreaming?” asked my mom.

“Fossils” I replied predictably, my mom smiled. I focused on my own delicious breakfast until it was 7.20 AM that’s when I go to school. I pulled on my velvet socks and creamy white shoes. I closed my door and ran across the street to find my friend Mia. She has white glasses and charcoal black hair. She met me by the road, and we made a run for our school. We skimmed through the stairs and barged into our classroom. Just then, the bell rang! We jumped into our seats and Ms. Wang took our register. “Okay, all present” she announced when she was done. “Now, I need to tell you an important news” she declared enthusiastically. We all sat up, if you were there you could feel our excitement. “The school organized a campaign where three children from every class could go fossil hunting” she paused as I waited with bated breath. “For this class I have chosen Mia, Kylie and Jessie!” I felt excitement rush over me like an overflowing waterfall. I was going to the place I could get famous, yay! Ms. Wang watched me in amusement and asked, “any questions?” “Ms. Wang when is this?” I asked. “This snack break”, she replied and started to mark books. Everyone started talking but the teacher seemed to allow the chattering this time. I was so excited that if I could find an undiscovered dinosaur it would be the dream of my life. I knew I would find one, so I got straight to work deciding the name. That was when I was rudely disrupted by Kylie Williams. She is so mean; I can’t stand her at all. She makes me sick. “You won’t find a fossil, I will” she smirked interrupting my train of thoughts. I clenched my fists in rage, and I was about to scream at her face but just then the bell rang. I let all my anger seep out of me and tried to calm myself. It was break! I was so excited that I could finally do fossil hunting; I ran into the bus that was parked on the sidewalk next to our school. I buckled my seat belt and chatted with Mia while the bus found its way to Jiangxi our fossil site.

Once we got out of the yellow shiny bus, I could see lots of people digging. Scientists, archeologists and fossil hunters were all digging with their spades and were occasionally glancing at their book about dinosaurs. Our group went over to a space next to three scientists. They were wearing a white coat and a badge with their names on. “Alright get on with digging everyone”, Ms. Wang screamed over the noise. We all scampered up and started digging with our emerald, green spades.

Suddenly, without warning my dinosaur necklace that I was wearing started to glow. It didn’t ever glow before. I stared around to see if anyone saw it, but everyone was too engrossed in their own work to take any notice of me. Suddenly I felt a strong stride of wind that nearly made my hair fly off, I closed my eyes. After a few seconds I heard a thud, I flew open my eyes and I was not in the site anymore; I was in a cave and my necklace wouldn’t stop glowing. In the distance I saw a spiky figure in the darkness. I gathered my courage and edged closer to it. It had razor sharp teeth, cute black eyes but a friendly face that looked normal until it smiled then its whole face lit up like dozens of lights. It lit up the whole cave, it was a dinosaur. I screamed “Hey, shh there is nothing to scream of” the dinosaur whispered in a soft voice “Just untie this knot and your necklace will take you back”. I gasped and asked thoughtfully “How can you talk?”

“Long ago your mother was a good witch. She conjured a spell that made us talk just like humans and she helped us when needed. Then an evil wizard came and made her forget magic” the dinosaur explained. “There was no one to help us except the people of your generation.” Everything became clear! I removed the knot and said bye. I felt a strong stride of wind again and closed my eyes. After a minute I opened my eyes and saw myself back at the site. Without waiting I continued digging, then I felt something hard and white. I dusted of the sand and found a fossil which had a note on top of it. Thank you, Jessie! I smiled and got my notebook to find out which dinosaur it was. But it didn’t match any. Yay! I had found an undiscovered fossil. I called Ms. Wang and explained everything about it to her. She smiled and asked, “What are you naming it?” I smiled to myself and replied “Meng Yao” – a beautiful Jade.

# A Serious Coincidence for me

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Atayi, Sophie – 9*

I put on my favourite pyjamas and sighed, the faint aroma of freshly steamed Xialong bao filled the air and the sound of my mother walking around in the kitchen resonated in my ears. My family from my mother's side had a habit of endlessly cooking for even small events such as in this case my father's parents were visiting.

Suddenly, I heard a loud noise from the kitchen, I rushed in and found my mother laying on the floor. I came closer to her and stroked her hair. I was worried, because my mother had fallen ill a few years ago. Luckily, my father's parents were here, so I grabbed my backpack, dashed out the door and ran as fast as I could, still in my pyjamas, towards my dad's office to tell him what happened.

When I arrived, pearls of sweat covered my face. I started to cry as the receptionist asked me what was wrong. I told her that I had to talk to my father, she told me that he was in an important meeting at the moment so I ran past her and into the meeting room. I burst through the wooden doors and into the huge space. All eyes were on me and I had the feeling that once I got home I would be in deep trouble. My father looked at me in anger and shouted "Go away!" I retreated to the bathrooms of the building where I locked myself in one of the stalls, tears streaming down my face. I cried my heart out until I fell asleep.

In my dream I was in a forest and I walked East until I reached a clearing, then I woke up.

When I woke up I wasn't in the bathroom stall as I was before but I was in the exact same jungle as in my dream. I reached the clearing and was puzzled to see millions of doors that stretched out as far as the eye could see. I stepped towards one and turned the handle. A blast of light blinded me, I covered my eyes as I stepped through the door's frame. I found myself back in the bathroom stall, so I hopped back through the door and made a mental note to myself that the first door led back to the stall.

The second door led to a field that was dotted with absurd looking kinds of beasts. As I was about to open the third door, it opened itself and it seemed that it was beckoning me to go through it. So I did. I was swallowed up by a void, then all of a sudden I landed. The void brought me into a cave and I had an infinite amount of feathers along my body. The cave overlooked the sea and there were multiple Plesiosaurs lurking in the glimmering waters. I fished out a mirror from my backpack and thoroughly inspected myself. As far as I knew, I was an awfully weird looking Sinosauropteryx with light pink rabbit pyjamas. I trekked down the mountain awkwardly as carefully as I could with my long tail barely helping.

I followed a stick insect which seemed to know where it wanted to go as opposed to me. Far past the foot of the mountain lay the ocean but I noticed that one of the aquatic creatures that I later identified as a Cartorhynchus was slowly drifting downwards towards the bottom of the ocean. Without thinking I ran into the water to help, the saltwater stinging my eyes as I swam.

As soon as I had successfully saved the Cartorhynchus I asked her many questions like: "*What happened to you?*", "*Will you be alright?*" and "*Are you hurt?*" But she just stared at me in response. I tried to calm her down by reciting my mom's favourite poem and it worked. I was surprised that she could even understand me. I figured she would be hungry so I fetched some sea snails and gave them to her and she slurped them down hungrily. The next thing I knew, I was back in the stall, dry tears marking my face, I was a human again.

I went back out and avoided eye contact with anyone, I walked towards my aunt's building, I was going to stay with her this weekend. When I arrived, the savory smell of Xiaolong bao filled my nostrils. I was welcomed with savory and sweet dumplings, black sesame soup, and tapioca pudding. My mother's sister always had food ready, so I stumbled into a chair and started telling the whole story to her, my words gushing out of me like a waterfall. Once I had finished, my aunt had a worried look on her face, thus she pulled me into a tight embrace, almost squeezing the life out of me. I couldn't resist eating so I stuffed some tapioca pudding into me and trudged in the direction of the guest room, not bothering to change, I flopped onto the pullout bed, then fell into a deep sleep...

As I woke up, the memories of my mother came flooding back. I thanked my aunt for not making a fuss about me coming on such short notice and ran home to check on my mother. The moment I stepped through the door's frame, I sensed something was wrong, I checked the kitchen floor but my mother wasn't there, I should've been more responsible for her, I shouldn't have left her just to tell my dad, I should've stayed there with her and now, she was gone. I had lost her...

Suddenly, a warm palm placed upon my shoulder, I looked back, it was my grandmother, with my grandfather directly behind and she immediately said: *"We rushed your mother to the hospital and they said that she would be fine but they said she was hallucinating about being a Cartorhynchus."*

I was overwhelmed as I pieced everything together...

# The New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Benichou, David – 9*

I put on my favourite pyjamas and sighed, the faint aroma of freshly steamed Xialong bao filled the air and the sound of my mother walking around in the kitchen resonated in my ears. My family from my mother's side had a habit of endlessly cooking for even small events such as in this case my father's parents were visiting.

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I was overwhelmed as I pieced everything together...

# The Land of Dinosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Cang, Marion – 9*

In the Prehistoric Age, existed the Age of Dinosaurs. Nowadays, there lived two girls called *Hazel* and *Astrid*. They were willing to travel in time to see dinosaurs of China. But, will they successfully go back in time, or fail and not accomplish their own, very important mission?

"I wish we could go back in time to see dinosaurs." said Hazel.

– Hey Hazel, said Astrid.

– WHAT. Hazel blurted out.

– You should know that there *are* things that can *change time*, explained Astrid.

– What kind of things? asked Hazel curiously.

– Hazel, you know some books in the library right? Well, sometimes, this weird thing happens: *when you open a book, fiction or nonfiction, it might bring you in the book. you might also be the main character or characters, and have the same experience as them in the or a book*, explained Astrid.

– Cool! exclaimed Hazel, impressed.

– it's not done yet. *you might also find time-changers, which could help you go back in time*, done, said Annabeth, gasping for breath, because she was talking so much.

– Then, tomorrow, Astrid, we'll search the library, okay? asked Hazel, sympathetically.

– Yes, said Astrid, tired.

The next day the two girls went to search the library. They finally found a book called *The Land and Time of Dinosaurs*.

"Open it" ordered Astrid

– Okay, here we go, said Hazel, calmly

Suddenly, when Hazel opened the book, it started to flip pages itself, and inside, there was a page that there was an image of a forest, with dinosaurs then, the book's page began to shine and there was a beam of light and Hazel frightened, dropped the book. When the shining spread around the library, it faded. Then, the place began to change. The floor turned to earth, with rivers flowing and plants growing, the bookshelves became tall trees and bushes in the nature. Finally, the people around them became dinosaurs roaming the land there was a vast, vast land around the two girls, Hazel and Astrid.

– *That* was a frightening, cool experience actually— said Hazel, honestly.

– I know, right? It's like, so cool, right? interrupted Astrid.

– Actually, wow. Astrid, *how did* you know this would work? asked Hazel, admiringly at Annabeth

– I just know. Come on, what are you waiting for? Let's explore this place! declared Annabeth, excitedly.

The girls went to explore the place which was *full* of dinosaurs (well, not *that* many dinosaurs or the forest of dinosaurs would be squashed).

They took notes on the plants, animals and dinosaurs they saw.

– I've never imagined *anything* like this, even if I knew this would happen like that, said Astrid, very honestly.

The girls went on exploring the land.

As soon as they saw a *Sinosauropteryx*, the girls looked carefully at it and took notes.

*All those notes make me feel like Sinosauropteryx are actually nice though*, thought Hazel, so she walked to it.

What are you doing, Hazel? asked Astrid worriedly.

– I'm just approaching it okay?



—Okay.

As soon as Hazel gently approached, and to her surprise, *it also approached her*.

“I guess it says we could have a ride on it” confirmed Hazel

—Then I suppose we will.declared Astrid.

So the two girls rode on the Sinosauropteryx and it went around almost the whole place for them to see.

“I find this ride great and interesting because we saw a lot of prehistoric animals.exclaimed Astrid.

The girls explored the forest which had beautiful plants,flowing rivers and tall trees around them.They stopped the ride until the Sinosauropteryx dropped them off.

After the ride, the girls decided they should go to explore the place themselves( The girls had a fight whether they should continue their journey on Sinosauropteryx or on foot well, at the end Astrid won). They found out that other dinosaurs also live there such as Mamenchisaurus,Caudipteryx and Microraptor.They had a wonderful time at the land of dinosaurs.

“I wish we could do this with all the books we read too.” said Hazel.

—Of course we can.confirmed Astrid.

—We can?seriously? Asked Hazel, unsure.

“I guess it’s time we should go back to the library”.declared Hazel,who was worried they spent too much time *in* the book.

—Okay,sure, let’s go back.

So the two girls opened the *Land and Time of Dinosaurs* book one last time, and the rivers, the earth and the plants turned back to the solid floor of the library and the trees evolved into bookshelves and finally, the tall,high sky turned to the library’s ceiling and everything turned back to normal.

“What a lovely adventure!”exclaimed Hazel.

“ I wish we could have another adventure like this” They both said at the same time.

# The Story of a Dinosaur

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Cao, Angie – 8*

Once upon a time, there was a dinosaur named Daisy. She had a big sister named Cally Flower and a brother named Michel, her mum was named Maryway and her dad was named Drake. Daisy was no ordinary dinosaur, she was talentless. Her sister was a beautiful dancer. Her brother was a gifted baseball captain, and as you guessed her mother was a gifted singer. And of course, her father was an actor. Daisy got interested in dancing so she tried but never went up to another level. One day Daisy decided to leave her home because she was talentless. She decided that she would need a plan but suddenly...

“Oh, Daisy time for lunch!”shouted Mary way .

“Okay” replied Daisy.

As Daisy walked down stairs she was making a plan.

The next morning,Daisy woke up at 5:00am to get ready for the escape. In the afternoon,Daisy was ready. She was in her room with her mother and quietly her mother left, “This is my chance.” said Daisy quietly as she ran out of her room to the escape door. Now Daisy was outside when suddenly she spotted a hotel “I wonder what if I use the money I took from home to buy a room in the hotel.” wondered Daisy.

And so she bought a room in the hotel and organised her things, then she wrote a letter to her family, it said...

Dear family

I escaped from home because I was talentless, and I don't want to have a family that is gifted.

Please understand.

Love from Daisy

Since that letter Daisy's family was heartbreaking, they never thought that Daisy would do anything like this. So they searched everywhere, until they found Daisy and got her back home. After that,they told Daisy “Daisy never ever go out again, we were so worried.” said Mum angrily

And then her sister said “You know that you haven't tried something yet Daisy ,and that is Poetry!”

“Wait what!”said Daisy surprised

And so on Daisy started Poetry and wrote her first poem...

The ballet poem

I am a jumping , twirling,dancing ballerina. All day long I spin and leap,floating across the room like a graceful butterfly across the air,then here comes me the dancing Queen!

So Daisy gave this poem to TEPCFC (the english poetry competition from china). After one month an unexpected news came that Daisy got first place!

Then suddenly Daisy's confidence came back,and from that Daisy was no more talentless so she lived happily ever after!

# The Journey of the Palaeontologists

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Chan, Chi Ying Summer – 8*

Paleontologists have been wanting to discover China's dinosaurs because China has lots of dinosaurs that have not been discovered which has fascinated them to come to China to find new findings. In 2025 a group of five Palaeontologists that studied at School of Paleontology discovered a cube in their class. The professor of the class said a farmer had found this cube beside a dinosaur fossil in 1990 in Northern China near Mongolia. The problem is the professor doesn't know what it is and how to use it, so he asks the top five Paleontology Students to give him some idea how to use it.

The five students accidentally pressed twenty five buttons with each one of their hands all together on the magic cube, the cube began to crack and lights started to shine out. When the cube was almost fully cracked, magic starts to bring them into a blue magic tunnel and ends up landing in the time that had dinosaurs. One of the palaeontologists said "Is this sixty-five million years ago?" where the others reply "should be". Immediately a brachiosaur with a couple of Sinosauropteryx riding on it stepped over their head. The world was a grassland with enormous plants and lots of humongous volcanoes erupting like a big large river. The sky was blue, orange and extremely hot, the five Palaeontologists were sweating a lot. The dinosaur also roared loudly, BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! The volcano erupting sounded like fireworks that had a strong smell of lava and grass.

Luckily the magic cube allowed them to speak the same language as the dinosaurs. Paleontologist kept talking with one of the Sinosauropteryx to understand everything about how every dinosaur got special power from different planets and how it translates to each area on Earth. To add, the super power could overlap in one place and create different types of dinosaur.

Mercury gave them the power to control water or liquid. They live in the water, smart, have big mouths, in the color grey and blue such as Mosasaurs. Venus gave them the power of metal giving strength and hard thick strong protection, they looked tiny in yellow and gold but fast and also smart such as Velociraptor and Sinosauropteryx.

Mars gave them the power of fire to create protection for themselves and control volcanoes and lava and anything else that has fire on it, they were furious and powerful, they were red and pink such as Tyrannosaurus.

Jupiter gave them the power to control the wood such as trees and plants or anything that grows tall and big shapes, they were brown, green, big and herbivores such as brachiosaur. The last Saturn gave them the power to control rocks, soil and mountain, power of sturdiness and strong but slow they were brown, orange and white such as Ankylosaur. These five types of power cooperated together to create the cycles of life on the island of pangea.

Suddenly this all begins to end when more and more volcanoes erupting, typhoons, tornadoes, earthquakes and the weather gets extremely hot, the sun gets bigger and bigger, the dinosaurs said that the sun starts moving closer towards all the planets that gives the dinosaurs superpower causing the dinosaurs to lose their super powers one by one until they gone extinct. But luck has it (Earth) instead moved away from the sun and gets colder and colder. As time passed the Sun reversed and returned back to the original place.

For the next multiple million years later, without the power of the dinosaur the pangea splits into the different continents that we know today. Now that the Paleontologist knows how the dinosaurs went extinct and what planet the dinosaurs got their super powers from, the magic brought them back to 2025, they returned to the fossil site and compared the dinosaur fossil with the dinosaur that they saw in the past. One of the Paleontologists said "Oh! I know this dinosaur, it's the Sinosauropteryx that we communicated with!" Are these five planets still affecting the creatures in the earth? Do some humans get superpower from the five planets? Only time will tell...

# The Black Room

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Cheng, Yu – 10*

Chapter 1 –

It was a gloomy and stormy night. Nyx and Erebus invited Tim and Tam to have a feast.

“Tim and Tam! You're finally here! Come with us to the dining room” exclaimed Nyx. “So, what have you guys been up to?”

“Nothing,” replied Tam.

Nyx shrugged. She handed them the utensils. “Here, this is the dining room.”

The dining room was a large room full of shining chandeliers and colourful decorations. It had a beautiful, bright fireplace which led to a tall chimney above the mansion. The staircase was a spiral; it had golden handrails and silver stairs. The floors were made of fancy tiles such as the mosaic and marble.

“Wow! How did you make this feast? It's incredible!” said Tim.

They sat down on the long, enormous table full of different dishes.

Erebus took a deep breath and said, “We didn't invite you here to have a feast, we invited you here because we need your help”.

“Need our help? Need our help for what?” asked Tam.

“In this mansion, there is a room. People call it The Black Room,” replied Erebus. “We want to know what it is or who scares people so much. We also want to restore this haunted mansion so it is not haunted anymore.”

“So you want us to go into The Black Room?” asked Tim.

“Yes,” replied Nyx. “Please? We will give you a reward!”

Tim and Tam sighed, and said “Fine.”

Chapter 2 –

“The room is just five hundred stairs up and across the hallway. You can't miss it!” exclaimed Nyx.

Feeling nervous, the two brothers set off on their mission.

“Are you sure this is safe, Tim?” whispered Tam.

“I don't know. But we have to,” replied Tim.

They went up five hundred purple, glistening stairs. With every step they took, they felt like something would reach out and grab them by the head and gobble them down. But, they made it to the top.

When they got there, there was a red hallway, full of suits of armour. They both felt as if something was watching them. Shadows looked like they were melting into monsters. As they continued down the corridor, they smelled crimson, red blood dripping down from the ceiling. It dropped onto the floor, creating a scarlet pool of horror, right in front of them.

The air was tangible with fear.

BAM!

“What was that?” whispered Tam.

“I don’t know!” whimpered Tim.

They looked around the hallway to see if anything was with them.

CRASH!

“It happened again!” shouted Tam.

They looked around once more.

“D–did that s–suit of a–armour just m–move?” gulped Tim.

“No w–way r–right? I–it was just your i–imagination, right?” whimpered Tam.

Desperately, they finally arrived. The door was painted all black. It had blood stains on it. Tim bravely opened the door and...

Chapter–3

CREAK! The door opened as they stepped into The Black Room.

All of the walls and the ceiling were painted pitch–black. There was a jagged, weak desk in the corner of the room. On top was a small candle and an odd–looking pot. The room contained multiple alcoves, which were full of spiders and webs. Beside the desk, stood a dark, destroyed closet.

Tam gulped. They felt terrified. They took another step.

CREAK!

“What was that?” asked Tim.

“I think that ch–chair just m–moved!” whispered Tam.

BAM!

“Yeah, s–something definitely m–moved,” whimpered Tam.

Then suddenly, something dashed into the shadows in front of them. A wooden chair rushed towards them at the speed of lightning.

“My l–leg!” shouted Tim.

“Ouch!” exclaimed Tam.

The odd–looking pot was shaking. White stuff, like a smokey steam, or a steamy smoke, was coming out of it. As it writhed and wriggled through the air, it started shaping itself into ghosts!

They each had two, big eyes and a big smirk on their faces. They had no noses and no ears.

There was a stool in the corner. They stared at it. Then unexpectedly, it started to morph into a monster! One of its legs became thicker and thicker, with the others following suit. Its seat grew eyes and noses...

It had five, big hands and four, long fingers with sharp claws. It had enormous, hideous feet. The monster had two eyes, three noses, one big mouth and eight ears.

They were surrounded by monsters!

One of the monsters grabbed the desk and threw it at them. The ghosts kept on whispering in their ears, terrifying them.

They decided to run. They ran for the door as fast as their legs could carry them. But, in their haste, they each tripped over the other's feet and fell to the floor, sprawling and crawling desperately.

"Let's get out of here!" said Tim, feeling horror running through his entire body.

Helplessly, they ran for their lives. They launched themselves into a completely different room.

They looked around the empty room feeling horrified. It looked just like the black room; with lots of alcoves. Just less scarier. They saw a stone statue with sharp teeth. It had green skin and a big hand. It had a long cape and slim face. The statue looked like a half-troll, half-vampire. Now they felt like vampires would bite them or trolls would smack them.

"What are we going to do?" cried Tam.

"I have no idea," whispered Tim.

They stood in the middle of the room.

"Tim, I don't f-feel well," whimpered Tam.

Feeling scared, Tam collapsed on the ground. Suddenly, a monster; with five, blue eyes, twenty arms, five legs and two mouths burst into the room and punched Tom in the face. Then, he collapsed to the ground.

Chapter-4  
BAM!

"What do you think is happening up there?" asked Nyx, with a nervous look.

"Crazy stuff I think," replied Erebus. "Crazy, but bad."

"We better check on them."

Nyx and Erebus went up the five hundred purple, glistening stairs just like Tim and Tam. They passed the red hallway.

Nyx and Erebus had healing powers. Unfortunately, they didn't have any other powers: strength, ice, fire, nature or lightning.

VROOM! BAM! CRASH!

Nyx and Erebus were healing their wounds. Their healing made funny noises.

Tim and Tam woke up with a surprise.

“Get away you monsters!” shouted Tim and Tam.

“It's fine, we are Nyx and Erebus, not those scary monsters!” said Nyx, playing with her long, black hair.

“Oh, sorry,” said Tim. “Wait, where are our wounds?”

“We already healed them,” replied Erebus, winking at them.

“Thanks,” said Tam.

“We are sorry we didn't succeed,” said Tam.

“It's fine,” replied Erebus. “But we are kind of sad.”

“We will stay in the room for one more night,” exclaimed Tim.

“Yeah!” shouted Tam.

Feeling nervous but confident, they went back up the five hundred purple, glistening stairs and passed the hallway. They once again opened the door and...

# The First Encounter of Dinosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Dashnyam, Mara – 9*

As Mikayla was finished preparing her bag for the school field trip, going to a fossil museum, she quickly realised that she needed the permission papers to show to Mr Smith and looked in her bag but it wasn't there. When Mikayla went down the stairs and saw her mom and said, "Mom where is my permission papers?" her mom replied, "No, I didn't see any permission papers, sorry" Mikayla continued finding the permission papers to give Mr Smith, her history teacher.

Whilst Mikayla was arriving at school, she saw Gracie waiting in the main entrance and was thrilled to see her again. After greeting each other properly, they asked one another, "Today is where we're going to the museum!"

The school bell rang and Mr Smith took in the permission papers.

Throughout the morning, the bus took place in the campus' parking lot. Mikayla and Grace happily ran down the corridors and couldn't contain their own excitement. The girls finally came to the vehicle filled with joy. They sat next to each other laughing and making jokes.

As they were passing by a great number of buildings, they were going through a deep, dense forest which seemed in the middle of nowhere, they finally arrived at the museum.

A lady in red handed their tickets, but to their surprise no one was there...

Their class followed the main path from the entry but Mikayla and Gracie clearly had something else in mind. They continued to the corners of the museum and got to a storage room with big and small boxes.

The 2 friends searched in the boxes to see what was there. In the first box there was a glass case with a tooth in it.

On the front it reads, "Sinosauropteryx". Gracie exclaimed, "Isn't this from our history lesson? I think it was some kind of feathered dinosaur." They both wandered off in the final room of the trip with nothing but a glass box.

That was labelled, "Sinosauropteryx"; they were both so shocked. They went back into the staff room.

As the 2 friends shuffled through the boxes there wasn't the tooth anymore. They both gave up and looked for their class, the teacher didn't notice them running in the rooms, and left without them.

The girls panicked as the museum doors closed, and tried to escape the place but failed at the last second.

They got desperate and looked for an exit before dark.

The 2 girls were miserably finding a source of light in the pitch dark. But luckily they found an emergency flashlight. But then right after she picked up the flashlight Mikayla felt a faint swish on her back, and immediately turned on the flashlight to see nothing but a metal trapdoor.

Gracie ran towards the trapdoor and Mikayla followed her. They lifted the trapdoor up and tried to fit down the tight hollow trapdoor. They crawled through the metal trapdoor and finally went out but the other end was locked. The girls came back from the start and turned on the flashlight.

Gracie shuffled in boxes and on the other hand, Mikayla looked at the reception table. Mikayla found a strange, little box with the word "Keys" written on it. Without hesitation, she tore open the well-sealed box and examined the contents of the box and found a ring of keys. She called out for her best-friend and there she came.

"Look what I found!" exclaimed the girl with excitement, "Let's see which one is the key for the locked trapdoor." murmured Gracie.

As they went through the claustrophobic, tight hole again, Mikayla turned on the light and jingled the keys around. "I think it's this one." whispered Gracie, "Wait no, this one!" shouted the girl. Mikayla tried most of the keys and finally ended up with a small, navy key with the same Sinosauropteryx tooth they found...

They tried the last key and *\*Click\** goes the keyhole. After a long time of being stuck in the pitch-dark museum for a whole night they can finally go back home.

After a long walk from the museum they encountered a crosspath. They both agreed on the left passage way and scurried down the path. Gracie felt like someone was watching them.



As the sky darkened, they found a large, pristine tree that seemed like there was nothing. Mikayla peered through the tree hollow in hopes of finding a place without any threat or insects to sleep in peace.

As the sunset turned night, Mikayla and Gracie layed down on the stiff, mossy ground and dozed off in the night. Mikayla struck up to the sound of a low growl waking her up. She woke her friend up to investigate what was all the commotion outside.

They crawled out of the tree and observed their surroundings with the flashlight they found in the museum, and strode through the forest path. The moonlight showed a small, feathered creature lurking in the woods and had a glowing bright color. Gracie remarked that it was the same Sinosaurpterrx that was missing a tooth. The 2 best friends approached the animal and took a closer look. Gracie let her hand out but the dinosaur was afraid of something behind them.

Mikayla slowly turned around and saw a tall man with a black coat staring at them like the dinosaur was their fault. He shouted, “What do you think you girls are doing?”

“Why did you release the monster?” Mikayla patted her friend on the back to signal her. Gracie turned her head, then her body and saw the eerie man and froze in place.

Mikayla replied, “Umm, I don't think I know you...”

The man answered, “Right, right, you didn't see me at the museum. Well I shall take the animal now.” Gracie responded, “NO! You can't take the only dinosaur on earth!” The 2 girls chased and took the dinosaur to a laboratory to keep the ferocious creature in a safe environment.

# The Aliograusus

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Jain, Suhani – 8*

Drip, drip, drip' warm tears fell from a young paleontologist's face onto the smooth marble floor of a tall building in Anhui province of China. If Cedrick didn't find any ancient dinosaur fossils in a week, his boss would fire him as it had already been 6 months since his last research. Cedrick was a young man. In the past, he had discovered the Allosaurus and came 2nd in the best scientist of the year competition! Suddenly, the doorbell repeatedly rang and someone knocked the door aggressively. Wiping off his tears Cedrick got up and opened the door. It was his boss. "Cedrick, your work is due in one week, and I really don't want to fire you but I will have to. So I have got you a specialist, her name is Sophie," said his boss in a calm voice. Sophie was also a palaeontologist who worked in the same lab as Cedrick. She had won the best scientist of the year award last year and had deep knowledge in dinosaur research. Anyway, back to the conversation. "Oh, and sorry if my loud knocks disturbed you. I just thought you were asleep!" added his boss while he left the house. Early next morning Cedrick put on his coat and shoes and walked towards Sophie's house. As he walked, his boots slowly sunk one by one into a thick, white blanket covering the roads. Finally Cedrick arrived at Sophie's house. Hesitantly, he rang the doorbell and to his surprise it wasn't Sophie who opened the door, it was a young lady. "Hi, what do you want and be quick I don't have all day," Beamed the lady in an awfully rude tone. "Sorry to disturb you, but is Sophie home," asked Cedrick politely. "Ok let me call her," answered the lady. Sophie came out a second later with two scuba diving kits in her hand. "Hi, sorry about my sister she got fired yesterday and is in a bad mood, that's why she was rude to you," said Sophie "No it's fine, but why are you holding scuba diving outfits?" Asked Cedrick. "I thought that we could explore the bottom of the Yangtze river since no one has ever gone down there to find fossils," answered Sophie with a twinkle in her eye. "That's a great idea!", said Cedrick. They took a cab and stopped in front of the Yangtze river, sat down on one of the banks. Sophie opened a green case that she was holding. She told Cedrick to put on his diving kit, space helmet and waterproof head torches. "But why space helmet?" asked Cedrick. "So that we can talk under water!" answered Sophie like it was obvious. After putting on their suits they both sank themselves into the crystal clear waters of the river. Sophie followed Cedrick into the depths until it was completely dark. They switched on their waterproof head torches and decided to search in different directions. Cedrick looked through coral while Sophie dug under the sand a bit. "Sophie, come look at this, it's a humongous egg!" exclaimed Cedrick excitedly while taking out a big egg and placing it on the sand. "Wow, that is huge. Good thing I brought my trolley!" exclaimed Sophie as she put the heavy egg onto the cart. Each holding one end of the trolley they swam back up to the shore. Finally they reached the shore and changed their swimming suit to their normal clothes and dragged the trolley back to the lab so that they could investigate the cracked egg further. Using his electron microscope, Cedrick examined the egg. It had a light blue base with uneven turquoise spots decorated on it along with a few microscopic lumps. "Hmm, this dinosaur must have a few spots on it and must be super big!" predicted Cedrick. Sophie took a look after him. "Yes but look closer there are also scales which means it must live under water which is why we found this underwater too!" added Sophie. "Well the egg also is in an oval shape so it must have a really long neck but it is not very fat so its fins must be short. Cedrick drew a sketch of the dinosaur. Cedrick's dinosaur had a super long neck with four short fins and a short tail. It was sapphire in colour with emerald spots at the back. The dinosaur had a T-rex head and teeth sharper than knives. Next Sophie took out her computer and took a photo of the egg. She used an app that helped her figure out more information about the Dinosaur. "Look here Cedrick, this information tells us that the dinosaur must be able to breathe under the water. This dinosaur was the first living thing to grow on this planet! Almost 1000 years before any dinosaurs or any other animal!" added Sophie, surprised and excited. "And this dinosaur is actually a herbivore. And it could be 50 meters long and 10 meters wide!" added Cedrick after measuring the egg. Full of excitement and encouragement, Cedrick and Sophie wrote down all their findings and then packed up before going home. Later that week Sophie invited Cedrick so that they could give a name to their latest finding. After a few minutes of talking and

sipping tea they decided on naming the dinosaur Aliograusus. The next day was the competition for the best scientist of the year award. Each contestant had to read out and show their findings and the best three would win the scientist of the year award. Sophie and Cedrick's findings were truly unique and full of historical importance.

# The World of Dinosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Kamil, Amanda – 9*

I was going to the library to look for a new book about the dinosaurs discovered and studied in China. After I arrived at the Hong Kong Public Library in Central, I started my big search and look around the gigantic building. I almost lost my hope and enthusiasm but when I passed the last shelf, I saw an unfamiliar book lying on the wooden floor covered with the black and blue carpet more than a kilometre long in length. I never saw this particular book before in my entire life. Through my twenty one times visiting the big library building, I have never seen this specific book anywhere before. Even in other public libraries, this book never appeared before my eyes. Even at school, I really haven't seen it anywhere before. I discovered the title of this unusual documentary book was "All about the dinosaurs of China ".

As I was starting to read the first few pages of the old book, I thought it might help me a lot with a school project about the dinosaurs of China for a presentation at school. But after I borrowed this book, and I exited the humongous building, I couldn't see the streets filled with people anymore. Instead of the sound of the car engines, I heard roaring sounds everywhere around me. Instead of the people chatting, I saw dinosaurs roaming the land. Instead of the tall skyscrapers, I saw cliffs and mountains from afar. And that's when I knew where I was...the Prehistoric times.

I was just so amazed by this outstanding and amazing land I almost got stomped over by a Mamenchinosaurus. It was the biggest thing I have ever seen in my life! Actually, it was the tallest dinosaur in the big country. It was 15 to 26 metres in length and 15 to 26 foot in height. Then I knew I had to be very careful and mindful especially in the carnivore sections for walking around. Very quickly my eyes were on full attention to three speedy fast velociraptors trying to kill humongous and bad-smelling brachiosaurus. It was just like watching a movie live! Then I peeked at the herbivore sections. At first, everything I saw was just plantation, and then the dinosaurs started popped out. The first dinosaur I saw was a big triceratops sitting under a shady tree quietly and comfily munching some warm leaves from the bushes under the sunshine. Then I saw a diplodocus using its long neck to reach the highest leaves and branches on what seems like the tallest tree in this section .The third reptile I saw was the gobisaurus happily eating a bunch of eucalyptus leaves straight from the muddy floor which I think there was also poo and pee on. Next, I took a look at the omnivore areas. These areas were particularly and obviously just too full! The first dinosaur that I realised was the Yunnanosaurus eating dried meat from the ground as hard as wood. The fast, small and speedy group of avinimus was running around in never ending circles. The beipiaosaurus was just silently sleeping in a dark area where all the other sleeping dinosaurs were. There were tons of other types of dinosaurs such as the citipaty and the oviraptor... Last but not least I checked out the carnivore section. It literally smelled like rotten and expired meat kept out of the fridge for years! My eyes were again on full attention on a very fragile and precious Tyrannosaurus Rex' nest. I guess its parents were out looking for food. Then I decided to take a closer look at the very fragile eggs. But I actually saw an egg hatching! I immediately saw a group of guan long, a group of yurtiranus and a group of yanchuanosaurus all mischievously going to the herbivore section. They all had some kind of cooperation between each other. Then I explored around everywhere I could go (which made my legs very exhausted and really tired) and at last I found a nice and empty cave to rest and spend the night.

The next morning I got woken up by the sound of dinosaurs roaring and stomping. Then I went surveying a little more in this amazing and mostly surprising world. The next gigantic reptile I saw was the chaoyangsaurus. The

weirdest thing is that I actually saw the small reptile pee and poo in a pile of old and rusty branches! Next, another diplodocus and brachiosaurus were stomping together. Then I heard really loud stomping behind me. I turned around and saw the Tyrannosaurus rex mom and dad running after me. I think they thought that I stole one of their eggs when I was checking out the carnivore sections and their very fragile nest with eggs hatching inside. I also think their eggs have a specific smell and I could've caught a bit of that specific and unfamiliar smell. The next thing I did of what I thought was the end of my life was running for my precious and valuable life. Thank goodness suddenly I was slowly disappearing from the Prehistoric times and back to the normal world in my quiet and calm house lying in my cosy and completely comfortable my bed. What an amazing adventure! Thank God I also brought my sketch book and a sharp pencil along with me in my backpack (including my empty water bottle which I finished during my adventure). I think I've learned enough about the dinosaurs of China for one day. Now, I'll record everything I've seen and make an outstanding presentation about the dinosaurs of China for the world to enjoy. And last but not least I'll tell everyone about my short stay in the dinosaur world, hopefully everyone will believe my out of this world experience.

# The Broken Bond

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Lau, Alexis – 10*

On a hot, sunny day, a group of workers and paleontologists were making their final search for fossils on Port Island in Hong Kong. They had already discovered a bunch of dinosaur fossils on the other side of the island and were hoping to find anything else before heading back to the laboratory. Suddenly, one of the workers shouted, "I found something! I found something!" All the paleontologists rushed over to see what he had discovered. They were puzzled because, unlike the other fossils they found earlier, these were broken into small pieces and scattered everywhere. Little did they know, there was a sad story behind this pile of bones... Dino was a young dinosaur with a brave heart and kind soul. He was friendly to others and always gave a helping hand when needed. His body is covered with shiny feathers in vibrant blue with hints of green and some pointy yellow ones on his forehead making him look extraordinarily handsome. He lived in a village located on a small island with a surface covered with red earth. With the seawater splashing against its edges, it shone like a red emerald. Dino loved exploring the island and those nearby with his best friend, James. James, growing up with Dino, was a wit and sensitive one. The two young velociraptors were inseparable and always stuck together looking for extraordinary adventures.

As time went by, Dino was getting more and more popular among the villagers. His friendliness had won him many friends. In contrast, James sometimes was too sensitive, which made him too shy and reluctant to make new friends. With his ordinary appearance, he felt invisible, as if no one truly cared to see him. Occupied with various businesses, Dino spent less and less time with James and their close bond slowly fell apart. Whenever they finally had time to spend time together, the villagers kept comparing the two and always favoured Dino. James started feeling jealous towards Dino. What's more, he acted aggressively against Dino. He kept pushing him intentionally. Whenever Dino was praised, James felt unexpectedly angry. Being blinded by jealousy and anger, a crazy thought popped into James's mind: it was either him or Dino could stay on the island. He was set, he had a brilliant plan.

He decided to act more friendly towards Dino so that no one would ever notice his wicked plan. For a couple of days, he tried to hide his anger and pretend that his friendship with Dino had not changed at all. It wasn't long till his plan commenced. On a windy night, the sea wind was as fierce as a beast, the waves crashed to the shore. James asked Dino out to the wood for a walk. Dino was too kind to say no. It had been some time since the two had spent time together as buddies. He didn't know, a deadly trap was waiting for him. When they walked deep in the woods, James, his "best friend" took out a sharp stick pointing at him. Dino shouted at him "What are you doing!?" "Doing what I have to," James replied in a calm tone, "Any last words?"

Dino didn't understand but he had no time to think. He must run for his life.

The bushes bursted open, and out came Dino running away from James. James felt more and more powerful as he thought of ending Dino while Dino had no intentions of fighting back. Although he had no idea of what was going on, he was determined to fix any confusion. The two dinosaurs chased over deadly streams and steep roads. Dino started to feel exhausted from all the climbing. As they reached the top of the volcano, there was no way back. As they fought, Dino was asking why he was doing this. "I had enough of what they were always talking about, how perfect you are and how ordinary I am!" James explained in rage.

"But we are best friends!" Dino shot back. Dino kicked James's weapon and it fell out of his hands. James tripped and fell into the volcano. Thankfully, he held on to a rock sticking out. "Please help me!" James pleaded. Without any hesitation, Dino used all his strength to pull James back. It was out of his expectation, James used his tail to fling Dino into the lava. After a roar echoed through the air, all that remained was the sound of the wild wind. James ran back to the village without any guilt and pretended as if nothing happened. All the villagers tried to find Dino but in vain. They were in deep mourning for the loss of their faithful friend.

The paleontologists reconstructed the last pile of fossils found into a skeleton and stored it in the museum. Dino finally returned to his family and friends after all the years buried deep down in the ashes.

# The Epic Story Before the Fossils

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Lau, Sander – 8*

In ancient times, long before the existence of humans, there was a dinosaur kingdom called the Sky Kingdom. The kingdom was next to a great river, the Yellow River, that flowed with a bright yellow color because it was muddy. This river was like a caring mother to all the creatures in the kingdom. Each and every single year a new king is chosen; for millennia, the dinosaurs lived in peace in the Sky Kingdom. But one day, the newly selected king turned out to be very cruel and nasty. He was very mean to others and treated them like slaves. If anyone did not listen to his orders, he would beat the dinosaur and his family until they bled.

The dinosaurs finally had enough of the king's cruelty and decided to remove him from the throne. They had a plan. They secretly set an ambush deep in the dark woods, where the king loved to wander around after dinner. Then they waited patiently until the king went into the woods. With a loud roar, they surrounded the king, blocking his escape and using all their strength to take him down together. Now that the cruel king was gone, they didn't know who should be the next king, so they were having an argument, and formed two groups. One group supported a kind and smart potential king named Lava, while the other supported a brave and ambitious potential king named Pen. The dinosaurs disagreed because some did not want one king, and others didn't want the other. Then, one of them suggested that they have a war to decide who should be king, and the dinosaurs agreed to respect the strongest potential king.

On a stormy day, the dinosaurs all gathered on a high plateau next to the Yellow River. The river was full and wild, with big waves splashing against the river banks as it flowed quickly by. The rain was so heavy that the raindrops stung. Both Lava and Pen fought hard for the throne of the Sky Kingdom. The heavy rain made the ground muddy and slippery. Pen tried to bite Lava's neck but Lava used his tail to fling Pen to the ground. Suddenly, there were cracks in the earth and lava spewing out from the earth's core. The ground shook heavily knocking Lava to the ground. They helped each other stand up so they could continue the fight because they wanted a fair game. They battled for hour after hours while the surrounding dinosaurs cheered for their favorite potential king.

Finally, when dawn broke the next day, Lava won the fight, and Pen agreed to let Lava rule. All dinosaurs respected the result and the kingdom was at peace again. They danced and feasted to celebrate the new king, hoping for a new era in the Sky Kingdom. Without warning, the earthquakes reappeared and a lot of rocks shot out of an active volcano. Everybody was scared and ran for their lives. The rocks fell on the land, lava spouted from the volcano, and ashes and fire burned their homes. The whole kingdom was vanished and no one could escape. Smoke covered the sky, and the flaming rocks buried all the dinosaurs, and sadly, that's how the dinosaurs became bones and slept next to their mother, Yellow River, forever.

# Lily's Adventure

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Lu, Rosie – 8*

Once upon a time, there was a dinosaur with clean teeth, light purple skin, and beady eyes; her name was Lily. Lily was an explorer, her mission was to travel the world, even though she never went out of the dinosaur land.

One day, there was a lucky draw in dinosaur land and the prize was to travel around China. Lily was fortunate enough to win the lucky draw and off she went, and that is when the new tales of China's dinosaurs began!

Because she heard about the Great Wall of China from newspapers in Dinosaur Land, she decided to visit Beijing first.

The view was breathtaking. Lily didn't eat anything in the day so when she got down from the Great Wall, she became starving. Luckily, she found an ice cream stand where she got a grape-flavoured ice cream with a cone. She ate it so quickly that she accidentally dropped the ice cream **All Over Her Head! Splat**, the ice cream dropped! Lily headed to a lake as fast as she could to have a bath! After that, Lily walked all over the lake and got lost. She became nervous and anxious, after all this was a brand-new place. Just then, Lily heard someone calling her. "Hey what's your name?" asked another dinosaur who had clean teeth, snow-white skin, and beady eyes too. "I'm Lily, and you are?", "Snowy!". "And I can see that you're a girl dinosaur too!", exclaimed Lily.

They chatted for a long time and soon became friends. Lily asked Snowy if she wanted to join her on her journey throughout China. Snowy said yes and Lily was thrilled that she won't be alone anymore for the rest of the journey.

Snowy and Lily needed to decide the next destination of their journey. Snowy suggested Shanghai, a mega city of China, because it has good food and views, and equally importantly they can easily get there by train!

They had a pleasant train journey with great food for Snowy and a window seat for Lily to look at the view. When they arrived, they realized they needed to have a plan. Snowy suggested, "Why don't we first go to a restaurant and taste good food". But Lily disagreed "You've already had lots of food on the train. We should visit places with good views first!"

They argued and argued, and finally Lily said, "Let's do rock paper scissors shoot to decide". "Fine by me!" answered Snowy. "Whoever gets 3 points first whoever wins" exclaimed Lily!

After a few rounds, Snowy and Lily each got 2 points, it was a tie! In the final round, Snowy cheated a little bit by changing from scissors to rock in the middle of the game but Lily didn't find out. Reluctantly Lily went with Snowy to a restaurant. "Mmm so good!" exclaimed Snowy, which made it harder for Lily. Even though it was good Lily still was disappointed, why? Because she really wanted to see the view! Snowy was enjoying herself too much to realize Lily was disappointed, so Lily sneaked out and decided to go to the beautiful peak of Shanghai that she always longed to see. "Anyways I was born to be an explorer unlike Snowy who really just loved food", thought Lily.

After a while, Snowy suddenly thought of talking to Lily. She asked, "Hey, do you like the food?". But there was no response, Snowy looked towards Lily's spot, but no one was there. Did she **Disappear**?

Snowy finished up immediately and started to look for Lily, but Lily was nowhere to be seen. Suddenly she recalled that Lily talked about the place she longed to be, which was the peak of Shanghai. So, she went there to look around for Lily.

Now Lily was at the top of the peak, the beautiful sunset shone across her purple skin and made it bright. Snowy spotted her right away so she climbed up at the top speed.



Snowy reached the top and was about to talk to Lily. Suddenly the peak rumbled, and a red liquid was bursting and coming towards them. There was smoke. Lily saw it first, "lava!" She screamed. "What did you say? Lava?" Snowy answered. "Run for your life!" Snowy and Lily spoke together.

They ran as fast as they could. The lava was coming towards them faster and faster, but they also ran quicker and quicker. The day grew darker, so they couldn't see as well as earlier. Suddenly Snowy bumped into a rock and fell. "Ouch!" She screamed. Lily shouted, "Are you okay?". Unfortunately, it was bleeding a bit on one of Snowy's legs.

"I'll carry you down the rest of the peak" exclaimed Lily. "But I thought you were disappointed in me, it's actually okay if you go first, I don't want to slow you down," said Snowy.

"Snowy, it was nothing. We may have different opinions on something, but that doesn't stop me or you from helping each other" said Lily firmly.

"Really?" Asked Snowy, "Yes!" Answered Lily. Lily did as she said and carried Snowy the rest of the peak. She had to be focused in the dark to avoid tripping on all the rocks and stones. Lily was tired of carrying Snowy while running from lava, but she didn't waste a second thinking about giving up. Lava almost hit them, but luckily it froze into rock just in time. They are finally safe.

The rest of the way was easier without the lava but Lily and Snowy were still exhausted when they were back to the city.

They decided to book a hotel for the night. "Let's go to a hotel with a good view," said Snowy. "No, let's go to a hotel with good food," said Lily.

Snowy and Lily suddenly said together, "Why don't we go to a hotel with both good views and food?!"

They understood that friendship is about caring about others, not only yourself.

# Marshy's World Adventure

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Man, Emilee – 8*

One evening a dino was born with care and kindness in dino world.

“Mama I want to be an explorer! ”cried Marshy the little dino.

“Okay dear, but you have to study really hard for that. Is that ok?

“Yes, mama, I will study really hard for that.”

32 years later...

“I’m ready mama, I’m sure I’ll bring back something for you.” whispered Marshy.

Then she went to the time travelling machine that her mom has shown her, and followed the instructions she’d told her, and she travelled from the past to the future!

“Wow I turned into a human, the time travelling machine was magical !

Ooff, eww what did I land on a trash bin ,EEK!

Wait ,where are all the dinosaurs?”

Confused, she walked out of the trash bin smelling gross, she was bumping and falling while walking as this was her first time.

She came to North America and saw the Statue of Liberty. She even made a new friend named Kenny . Marshy thought that was a nice day, she then went to Kenny’s house since she invited her to stay there at night. It was weird, her bed was like smaller ten times of her old bed in dino world .The shower was clean and the whole room was like a luxury dream compared to her old one with bugs and snoring of her dad. Next morning unfortunately, it was time to say goodbye to Kenny. It was a sad moment ,but soon after she forgot it and was as exited as usual to go on another adventure.

She then went to Africa to see animals that couldn’t be seen in dino world.

“Wow, I wish there was different types of animals like these in dino world .“said Marshy.

Though,she really missed her mum and hoped she was fine.

But she wasn’t. She had a really serious disease that may cause death, yet she was very confident that she could survive through this disease !

Meanwhile , Marshy was walking through the leafy jungles in Amazon and she even get to sleep with the animals in the leafy jungles because she couldn’t find anywhere to stay over !She also went to the the desert, and she got trapped in some quicksand, but managed to get out. Well that was kinda exciting and scary at the same time. It was a great experienced journey to come to the desert!

She then went to Russia and the Red Square Restaurant .“ Wow ,it’s so yummy !Maybe one day I can even bring my mum here. I hope she’ll like it .“whispered Marshy.

After that she went to France ,and saw the Eiffel Tower ,she thought it was amazing.

Suddenly she thought about the gift she promised her mum but she couldn’t buy it from here because her mum was an retired explorer and Marshy wanted to give her something related to that.

She then quickly went to Swiss and saw the Alps. “Wow! That’s amazing and beautiful and fascinating!“ Then she looked around and saw some shops nearby, so she went inside to see whether there were any suitable gifts for her mom.But sadly there was none.

After she went to many different countries,she realised that none of the gifts she saw was perfect for her mum, so she thought about going back home as a gift. When she got back home, she realised that her mum wasn’t there. She was thinking where her mom has gone. She thought that her mom would usually go to the market to buy some food for them, but when she went to the market there was no sign of her. Then she went to the library because that was her mum’s favourite place, she went there and asked a librarian, but the librarian said she hadn’t seen a glimpse of her.

She started to get a bit worried, then the police officer arrived and told her some good news and bad news. Her mum recovered from the serious disease but she was also paralysed.

Marshy was so worried but still happy to see her mom come back home.

As her mum came back. She said sorry that she didn't bring back the perfect gift, then her mom barged in and said "it's fine at least you're safe, that's the perfect gift for me ."

And all of a sudden she felt a flash of warmth in her heart that she never felt before, and she hugged her mum tightly as ever . "And I'm so sorry that I wasn't here for you when you were sick, mom!"

"It's fine, as long as you're with me now, you don't need to say sorry."

"Thank you mum, for all the things you did for me! "

"My pleasure! " replied mum "

"You're the best mom ever! " shouted Marshy.

"Okay so where shall we travel next darling? "

"I dunno ?" answered Marshy

"Okay darling,maybe we can look at the map! "

"And Marshy ,what point would you like to go? South,east ,west or north? " That confidence in her voice really made her like she's unbeatable,even though she's paralysed.

"I don't know, let's just choose a place randomly ." Marshy and mom looking at the map ...

# The Golden Egg

*The French International School of Hong Kong, McKenzie, Ines – 9*

There once were dinosaurs in China. In China, there was a rocky and grassy plain called the Danxia landform that had a lake, surrounded by trees, where the dinosaurs went to drink. It is a very big and beautiful landform. There were different kinds of dinosaurs : there were big dinosaurs, short dinosaurs, long dinosaurs, lots of different types, like, more than a thousand! They always stayed together as families and friends and played together the whole day. The dinosaurs also hunted even though it was hard for them because they were all quite tall. They ate very little meals so, all of them were thin. Although they were very thin, they did not starve but sometimes they needed to hunt more so that everyone could eat. At the end of the day, everyone was tired, so, after eating their dinner, they spoke until drifting off to sleep. The next morning was the same as every other morning and every single day.

One day, a mother dinosaur laid a golden egg. "Wow, it is a golden egg and no one is allowed to steal it". All the dinosaurs came to inspect it when suddenly an evil Dilophosaurus snatched the egg and ran with it but a very nice Micraptor that was sitting on a tree saw him, flew and took the egg from the Dilophosaurus. When the egg was safely back with the mother, she thanked the Micraptor. They all looked at it and said "It is a very curious egg indeed." They all thought it was a magical egg. All the dinosaurs took turns to guard the egg. The egg was the only thing they looked after from the moment the mother dinosaur laid it . It was magnificent! The dinosaurs all wanted to stay in their cave all day to look after the magical egg as they called it. Some of them wanted to stay just to admire the egg and they dragged to go somewhere else when they saw the egg. They knew they could not because they still needed to hunt and look after to clean in the cave and one more dinosaur to guard the magical egg. The dinosaur that guarded the golden egg did not let anyone touch it except the mother dinosaur that laid the golden egg. Every night, the dinosaur that guarded the egg did not stop guarding the egg: another dinosaur took food to the dinosaurs.

Every day, they change the dinosaur that will guard the magical egg. They were all jealous when one of the dinosaurs got chosen but they did what they were meant to do without complaining because the mother dinosaur always said: "it will be your turn one day." However, they did not trust her even though they needed to pretend. Months and months passed but the magical egg did not hatch. The mother dinosaur that laid the magical egg was starting to get worried. One morning, when all the dinosaurs were awake, she said : "from now on, I will always guard the egg, so, today, the two dinosaurs that are staying will need to make me a bed next to my golden egg."

The two dinosaurs that were staying made a bed next to the egg and they made a nest out of grass and flowers for the egg. When the mother dinosaur saw that, she was very satisfied. The whole day she rested with her egg next to her. She caught a glimpse of her egg from time to time before closing her eyes and opening them again. Finally, she drifted off to sleep. When the dinosaurs came back to the cave, they were surprised to see the mother dinosaur asleep. They thought she would be very hungry because she apparently did not have lunch. It is good that today the hunting was quite easy because they could give a bit more food to the mother dinosaur than they will have. They woke her up and she ate very hungrily and she was always glancing at her egg.

That night, when everyone was asleep, the mother dinosaur suddenly heard a crack. She turned to her egg; her egg was finally hatching! She was overwhelmed with joy! Before waking the others up, she needed to make sure that her egg was in security. She quickly covered her egg in her bed and put the nest for her egg on top of it. She ran to call the others and wake them up. Then, when all of the dinosaurs were awake, they all went to watch the golden egg hatch! Everyone was so excited but the dinosaur that laid the egg was the most excited. She was the closest to the

egg. The magical egg finally hatched completely and none of the dinosaurs could believe their eyes. It was a different dinosaur type that no one had ever seen; it was blue with green scales on the back and the baby dinosaur had purple eyes and purple wings. The baby dinosaur was a female dinosaur. She was so cute!

Most of the time, she stayed with her mother but otherwise she watched the other dinosaurs hunt. She got older and older, wiser and wiser, stronger and stronger, she learned to fly by herself. This dinosaur became the star of all the dinosaurs. Then, she laid her first egg and it was also a golden egg! She got worried but her mother told her that she was in a golden egg before she hatched. When the egg hatched, she saw the image of herself. Soon, everyone noticed that every female dinosaur that lays a golden egg means that their baby dinosaur inside the egg will look like this: blue with green scales on the back and purple eyes and wings! That type of dinosaur is the most beautiful type of dinosaur in all the world in the history of dinosaurs.

# A Trip to Ancient China

*The French International School of Hong Kong, McKenzie, Romy – 9*

This is the story of a girl called Lily Woods. She lived in a small cottage in a dark forest. She was nine years old and was passionate about ancient China : the different cultures and their stories, the popular animals, how they made paper with bamboo and the dinosaurs. She also went to an English school in China, and there were surprisingly a lot of English students in it.

One day, she went wandering in the mysterious woods with no one to survey her, when suddenly she spotted something weird... a kind of machine that had a lot of buttons and a door that was closed. She inched closer and closer to it until she finally reached it. She inspected it very closely until she found a button with « OPEN DOOR » written on it. She hesitated for a while asking herself if she should press it or not. She decided to do it. She pressed it and, as expected, the door opened. Inside there was a very small space with no windows. She entered and looked around when the door just slammed shut. Oh no she thought, what am I going to do? She waited in a panicked silence when everything started vibrating. She wondered what was happening and started humming a song to reconfort herself.

After half-an-hour, the machine stopped vibrating and the door opened. It was very sunny outside. She stepped on the land and realised that something was awkward: there were no shops, no supermarkets, no libraries, no houses and no people but only trees. She wondered what this place could be and how the machine had brought her here. Meanwhile, she kept on walking and walking when, suddenly, she tripped on something round and large and hurt her knee. She looked at what she tripped over and realised that it looked like a very big white egg with a hint of blue. She wondered to what animal it could belong to, since she did not see any. She decided to take the egg with her. A couple of minutes later, Lily saw a huge creature with wings flying in the air. What was awkward was that the mysterious creature seemed to be flying towards her. She tried to look at it closer and then, all of a sudden, she realised what it was. She couldn't believe her eyes.

It was a Microraptor, an ancient Chinese dinosaur that can fly! Now, she realised that the machine was actually a time machine and that it had brought her back into time to ancient China! She was really excited to be there when she suddenly remembered something: these type of dinosaurs have very sharp claws and it was still heading towards her, with an angry look on her face. She looked at it again and saw it was a female one and then she understood: she was aiming the egg, which was probably hers. Lily was about to put it back on the floor but before she could, the dinosaur landed right in front of her with the mad look starting to look like a battle one. Lily cautiously handed out the egg for the female dinosaur to take but instead, she started a very violent fight.

First, she scratched Lily's hand but luckily, she removed it but still got a little scratch. In a flash, the creature started flying, aimed at her, then flew straight towards her and, when she landed on Lily, she bit her. Lily screamed in pain and hit the creature very hard, nearly dropping the egg, which made the dinosaur let out a high-pitched yell. Then, the beast struck her again, but this time, she aimed at Lily's stomach. She pushed her way through Lily's arms and, at last, she reached her stomach. She was about to dig her claws into it but Lily was faster: she pushed the dinosaur out of her way and ran towards the time machine, without thinking. The creature kept on chasing Lily but she became a bit tired so her pace slowed down. When the poor child finally reached the time machine, she pressed the same button and like the other time, the door opened. She rushed into it and, when the beast tried to come in, the door closed. Inside, Lily could still hear the female dinosaur screeching madly. Luckily, the machine started vibrating once more and the screeching faded away.

Thirty minutes later, she arrived in the deep and dark forest again. She hurried towards her house and, two minutes later, she arrived. She went to see her mother because she is a doctor so she could heal her hand. When she finished that, she went to see her father to give him the egg because he works at the Care For Dangerous Creatures Society. When her dad had brought the egg over there, it had started cracking a bit so Lily was lucky enough to go and see it hatch. The little dinosaur was the same breed of his mother, but much cuter. « Wow! » she exclaimed excitedly, « It's so cute! ». Her father replied, « One day, he will be yours, my dear. He just needs a little bit of time to be well educated. »

Three months later, Lily took the precious creature home. She taught him a lot of tricks and called him Dave. Lily and Dave became famous at school and the pictures of both of them even went on newspapers. They finished by living very happily for the rest of their lives.

# The Fossil & the Time Travel

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Noyere, Maxence – 9*

Once, a boy named Chan lived with his mother at a rice field near the mountains. One day, while working on the fields, he found remnants of dinosaur fossils.

That night he brought the fossils home and placed them safely in his bedroom, inside a wooden chest, where his toy gemstones are. He has a book on astonishing facts about dinosaurs and realised what he found are fossils of pteranodon. Chan considered selling them to a paleontologist.

While admiring the fossils in fascination, one of his toy gemstones rolled under his bed. He looked around in search of it but his gemstone was nowhere to be found. Instead, he spotted a glimmer of light coming through a hole under his bed, about his size, which he didn't know existed. He was curious to find out what was on the other side. Chan quickly went to his drawer and took his pocket knife with him. He crawled through the hole and immediately found himself at the top of the tree, under a big blue sky.

He heard a squawking. He realised that it was a pteranodon as he recognised it from his book. The dinosaur looked at him "Hello there! I have been waiting for you." Chan looked at it in shock. "You... can... speak?" The dinosaur nodded. He asked "I think I know what you are looking for. Do you want to come with me?" Chan nodded. "But beware, we will come across the vicious T-Rex who has been trying to prey on me. So hang on tight!" Chan hopped onto the back of the Pteranodon. With a rapid leap, the dinosaur vaulted them into the air and set flight.

With the dinosaur's large powerful wingspan, they flew into the clear blue skies across rivers and mountains. The dinosaur explained that the T-rex is more vengeful than ever after a failed attempt to prey on the Pteranodon's nest just a few days ago.

They flew through an open forest and suddenly they heard a deafening roar. It was the T-Rex below, looking up at Chan and the Pteranodon with anger! They flew past it swiftly.

Chan asked the dinosaur, "What should I call you?" The pteranodon replied, "I don't have a name". His voice is a little sad. Chan told him he would like to give him a name and the dinosaur was extremely excited. "Would you like to be called Dino, Raptor, Glider or Williams?" They thought Williams was the perfect name for him. "Let's go Williams! I would love to see your home and hopefully I can find my gemstone along the way!"

Shortly they arrived at a beautiful and vast inland sea. "This is the Great Isle," said the dinosaur. There, Chan witnessed a big flock of pteranodons. Williams landed on a tall coconut tree. There, he saw a nest with young pteranodons, which were all squawking hungrily. Williams said, "They are my family and I am happy you get to meet them."

Chan spent the afternoon on top of the tree watching the flocks of Pteranodon resting near the sea and feeding on fishes. From a distance, Chan watched as Williams skimmed the surface of the sea while scooping up fishes for his young ones.

Suddenly, they were interrupted by a loud roar – the T-rex found them! It started ramming into the coconut tree angrily. The nests shook and the young dinosaurs cried fearfully. Coconuts fell from the tree, the hatchlings were



squawking loudly and it was total chaos. Chan took out his pocket knife and aimed it at the eyes of the T-rex, and launched it. The knife hits the eye of the T-rex. It growled in pain and ran off into the open forest, leaving Chan, Williams and its' nest alone.

Chan picked some coconuts to feed himself and quench his thirst. He felt better. Chan explained his life with his mother at the rice fields to Williams. He tried giving a picture of his home by building a miniature house using leaves, branches, twigs and rocks found by the sea. Williams was fascinated with Chan's world.

Chan just remembered that he has to find his toy gemstone.

Williams said 'I can't thank you enough for saving our lives. I will bring you to your stone. In exchange, can you promise me to bring the pteranodon fossil which you found in the rice fields to the museum? This is so we, dinosaurs, can be remembered forever.'

Chan promised.

"There is a cave behind the Great Isle, I will show you where your gemstone is."

Chan sat on Williams and they flew towards the direction of the mountain cliffs. With the Pteranodon's magnificent wings, they glided along terrains and mountains, flying high, avoiding any prey and circumventing all threats. Chan sighted other dinosaurs below them which he recognised from his book. He was in awe.

They landed at the mouth of a small cave and Chan followed Williams into the cave. At the other end there was a wooden chest exactly like the one Chan has at home. Chan ran towards the chest and as he opened it, he was surprised to find a gemstone looking identical to his toy.... however, this has a strong glitter coming from within. He picked it up, admiring the flashes of multicolored light coming through the beautiful stone. Williams joined Chan, looking at the stone and said, "This is the oldest mineral on earth, and it is exactly what you are looking for. It is yours." Chan stared at the brilliance and many facets of the gem. Williams said, "Take it with you, as my way of thanking you for saving us from the T-rex. But don't forget to keep your promise."

"Thank you Williams! I will." Chan said.

Chan kept the precious gemstone safely into his pocket and he told Williams he was ready to head home. "It is time to go and I am sure my mother will be worried about me".

Williams took Chan on him and they flew back to the top of the tree. Chan bid farewell to Williams and thanked him for the gemstone.

Chan jumped into the hole and with a thud he found himself on his bedroom floor. He looked under his bed but there was no hole in sight anymore. He reached into his pocket and there they were, his pocket knife and the gemstone which Williams gave him – that resembles his toy gemstone, but this, is extremely rare and valuable. He placed the gemstone safely in his chest, together with the dinosaur fossil which he had promised Williams to hand to the museum.

The next morning Chan brought the fossils to the museum. He also sold the precious gemstone given to him by Williams and with the money, he built a nice and comfortable home for him and his mother.

# Soaring Legends: The Untold Story of China's Forgotten Pterosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Reddy, Neil – 10*

**3,200 years ago in Henan Province**

As the sun rose, Xuan walked across the woods, picking berries and minding his own business. Then he heard a strange sound – a... what was it? a high-pitched... *screech*. Yes, that was it. A screech that made icy terror rattle his brittle bones. A terrifying creature emerged from the bushes.

The sun shined on him, revealing his features. He had an amazingly long wingspan, a long, slender jaw, tiny, peg-like teeth and was covered in a thin layer of... fur, maybe? you couldn't tell. Tan in color, he also had a distinctive sail-like structure on his head. Xuan exclaimed in horror. "A dragon!"

He was a flying dinosaur, in fact – a type of pterosaur – called a Zhenyuanopterus. One of the largest animal species in China, they had never been seen within the Shang Empire's borders before.

Terrified, Xuan dashed back to his little house in the city.

"Dad, Dad!" cried Xuan. "I saw a dragon in the forest!"

"Impossible!" said his father, Chang. "If I have medical abilities, dragons don't exist!"

Chang was the city doctor, and Xuan was training to be his apprentice.

"I swear! Just go look at it!"

"Fine," sighed Chang. "Let's get this over with."

Chang immediately darted into the forest. He ran to the creature... and saw the most beautiful, yet terrifying thing he had ever seen in his whole life. Chang was about to sprint back home to get a crossbow when he saw the wound. The dinosaur was dying! Chang felt a sudden urge to help him – but Chang had to act fast. He soaked some leaves in the pristine waters of the river next to them, cleaned the wound, covered it with leaves and sticks, and fed the dinosaur some herbs.

Two days passed and the dinosaur was cured. Chang decided to stop bothering him... until he saw that the dinosaur was *right next to his house*. Xuan realised that the dinosaur wanted to live with them, so they got one of their friends to build a hut for the dinosaur. They named him Liu. Liu liked eating fish, they discovered, and they soon found a daily routine of playing and fishing together.

However, one misty morning, the elderly Emperor found out about Liu. Rebels were rapidly advancing towards the capital and His Majesty needed an effective weapon to stop them. Emperor Wu Ding, who had ruled for 40 years, wanted to use Liu to scare the rebels from the southwestern part of the kingdom, who had almost reached Yin. But was this creature scary enough to defeat the rebels? "Yes," His Majesty decided.

A fortnight later, five soldiers went to Chang and Xuan's house and asked for the dinosaur. Chang refused to hand it over, because his son would probably be in tears if he gave it up (and so would Chang himself). One of the soldiers shot an arrow at Chang, but he missed. Chang and Xuan ran to the dinosaur and flew away. After flying for eight hours, they found themselves outside the kingdom's borders, in the middle of a bunch of fighting tribes.

On a beautiful mountain, far away from the battles, the dinosaur showed them a big colony of Zhenyuanopteri, surrounding a small lake full of fish for them to eat. Chang and Xuan saw many of the dinosaurs were weak. Not as

strong as they should've been. Liu brought Xuan and Chang to a lower part of the mountain, which was full of fresh Zhenyuanopterus bones.

Liu indicated to them that dinosaurs were dying in dozens, and Chang promptly realised that an epidemic was to blame. The disease was similar to a common human disease...

So Chang and Xuan got to work.

Weeks passed by the majestic mountain, and soon, the last sick Zhenyuanopterus was cured. Their days were filled with warmth and contentment, but they both missed home. Then one day, Xuan couldn't bear it anymore.

"I want to go home, Dad!" cried Xuan.

"How are we supposed to get there?" asked Chang. "It's so far away!"

"With Liu, of course!"

"We can't use Liu," exclaimed Chang. "The Emperor is looking for him! If we bring him back, he'll be captured and turned into a weapon during war and forgotten during peace!"

Liu, flying overhead, overheard the conversation and landed next to Chang and Xuan.

"I'm not making you take me home, Liu!" said Chang.

*Screeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeech!*

"Absolutely not, Liu!" bellowed Chang.

*Screech!*

"But—"

*Screech!*

"Fine!"

A little while later, above a bustling city, Liu, Xuan and Chang were about to land. But then they stopped. This was different. The city wasn't bustling with people — it was bustling with fighting soldiers. Sweat. Weapons. Blood. The city had turned into a battlefield — rebels vs. the emperor's soldiers. And the rebels were winning.

"See the might of the people of Xi'an!" bellowed the rebel leader. "See our superiority! You all are only good for being slaves or being dead, and when the king has been killed, we will rule you dogs!"

Blood spilled out the castle door. Emperor Wu Ding had been brutally killed.

Liu set Xuan and Chang down and flew away.

"Well, there goes our only hope," said Chang sadly.

As the sun rose, Xuan and Chang walked sadly toward the rebels, ready to be killed or made slaves. The king had been dead for hours. Their hearts were heavy, their self-esteem already in chains.

Then the dinosaurs came. All the dinosaurs in that colony, ready to repay Xuan and Chang, ambushed the rebels.

So the rebels were defeated, and the new Emperor, Emperor Zu Geng, repaid Xuan and Chang with countless riches. He wanted to repay the Zhenyuanopteri as well, but they were gone. Countless search parties searched all over China, but the "dragons" were never, ever found. They were all gone.

Just like that.

# Zombie—saurus

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Sharma, Zara – 10*

Layla was a lively 10 year old girl who lived in Big Wave Bay village. Life in the village was great but kind of boring – the same routine everyday. But recently there was a lot of excitement gripping the people of the village.

Someone had found a fossil from the Cretaceous period around 75 million years ago! It was only a small partially complete fossil but had created a big buzz.

Lots of Paleontologists had appeared in the village searching for more dinosaur bones.

Everyone was very excited.

“Yippee! My little village is going to be famous!” Layla said excitedly to her friends at school.

Every day, she awaited the announcement of the scientists telling them they had found the dinosaur bones. But sadly, that day never came.

One day, Layla’s dog, a little white pomeranian, Snowy – named after her favorite comic character's pet dog – went missing. Snowy was very curious and adventurous – but not brave enough to go for long without Layla.

Layla grew into a panic. “Mom! Where’s Snowy? He’s never out this late – he's really scared of owls!” She took a flashlight, put on her raincoat and sprinted out of her cottage, looking for little Snowy.

“Snowy! Snowy! Snowy, where are you?” Layla called into the darkness. She kept trekking for hours, even in the heavy rain. In her desperation to find Snowy she wasn’t looking where she was going and accidentally fell into a chasm.

She fell deep into the earth but thankfully everything was damp and soft and she wasn't injured.

When she finally felt the ground, she was frightened. It was dark with a musty smell and felt sinister in the darkness.

Suddenly, she heard a scampering and a repetitive growling. Layla felt scared. What sort of monster must make this place his home? Layla felt a sense of panic – she looked around for ways to escape this dark and gloomy place.

Walking in the darkness her feet splashed through the muddy puddles as she called out to anyone for help. She had recently seen a zombie movie and the thoughts of being attacked by one was something she just could not shrug off.

Yip! Yip! Yip! A familiar sound echoed in the cave.

Did zombies *yip*? She tried to remember the movie – but what if the movie was not realistic and actually zombies *did* yip?! – She *really* didn't want to take a chance and started walking faster.

Something moved up ahead. Layla felt herself gripped with fear. What a way to go... stuck in this miserable cold damp cave – will the paleontologists find *her* bones here instead?

The thing moved closer to her– she bent down to pray and closed her eyes. Suddenly her face felt wet and warm – she thought – “*Great*. Looks like the zombies have started with my face.”

Slowly, she opened one eye to check – but all she saw was a friendly tongue licking her non-stop. *Wait a minute*, she thought, *I know this tongue well. This is SNOWY!*  
She clicked on her flashlight and to her surprise, it *was* Snowy!

“Oh, Snowy!” Layla said happily. “*There* you are! Am I glad to see you! Obviously, I knew it was you,” She said, lying to the little dog. “You yapping dog, you!”

“Arf! Arf!” Snowy barked, putting his paws on Layla’s knees.

Snowy seemed to be trying to take her somewhere, so she followed him into the darkness, her flashlight giving them light.

Snowy finally stopped. “Arf! Arf!”

Layla shone her flashlight where he was, and gasped. “Snowy! This is.... These are bones!!”

“Arf! Arf!” Snowy barked proudly. Snowy loved bones and often brought them to Layla – but these ones were enormous and seemed connected. The bones dwarfed Snowy and so his excitement was off the charts, his little tail wagging like a fan.

“Let’s go see what the scientists think! This could be one of the *dinosaur* bones! But first we need to find a way out.” Layla knew Snowy probably found a way – but was too cowardly to go himself – but now she was there it would be ok.

“Where to, boy? I know you know the way.” Snowy let out an *obvious* yes (arf) and ran towards something like a light – it was an opening onto the road with a street light!

Layla and Snowy trekked back to the village – Layla’s Mom wasn’t very pleased. But when Layla told her about the cave and the bones, she was glad Layla was safe and suggested they go to the Paleontologists the next day

Layla and a very proud Snowy led the scientists back to the bones. “Magnificent! Fantastic! Brilliant! Well done! As our research concludes, this is indeed the bone of a new dinosaur!! The skeleton looks complete and we think this dates back to the Triassic period over 200 million years ago – this is a tremendous discovery!”

“Tell us, how did you find them?” The Paleontologists interviewed her after further research. “Well let’s say I had a little help from a little friend.” Layla said modestly and gestured to Snowy, who yipped as if he understood what they were saying.

The Paleontologists said it’s traditional for the finders to name their dinosaur discovery. After a lot of thought, Layla found a name that wasn’t already taken and would help her remember this adventure – **ZOMBIE-SAURUS!**

Layla and Snowy were in the news the next day, and the Paleontologists displayed the bones, with a special plaque for Layla and Snowy, at the Hong Kong Science Museum.

The only trouble was that this Museum full of bones was just too much for poor Snowy to handle.

“Snowy, stop eating the triceratops!”

# Fate of Dino Bi

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Takeuchi, Yuki – 9*

I am Bi, an Euhelopus dinosaur. I am in the cave where I was born. I scanned the wall of the cave where my Mum's claw mark was. I touched the claw mark, I could feel the blood of my Mum flowing inside my body. My tears rolled out from my eyes like a waterfall.

I was born in a cave in China. I hatched out of a cramped egg. The Mountain of the West was the first thing I saw in the stunning world. Mum bent down her neck and put her head on my forehead. Mum started talking to me, "You have teeny weeny eyes and razor-sharp teeth. You have a giraffe-like neck and an egg-shaped body. Your legs are thin but powerful and your tail is acute as knife. How endearing you are, my little one!" my Mum, Mia, pleased. "Squeak, squeak!" I wheezed.

"Bi, are you saying you love me?" Mum whispered near my ears.

Next morning, we woke up at dawn.

"Bi, we are off to find food," Mum urged.

The sun scorched my skin. The wind was blowing like thousands of hands slapping my face. I struggled with crawling. I was panting and my breath was running out. Mum demonstrated to me how to walk. We soon arrived at a broccoli-like tree and started to have snacks. At first Mum gave me leaves and showed me how to eat. Sooner than said she began to teach me how to get food by myself. I tried to take leaves from the trees by myself. All of a sudden, my neck was being strangled.

"Help!" I horrified.

I was kicking so hard that the sly dinosaur was losing his balance. Mum twirled her sharp lengthy tail and the dinosaur tripped.

"Get away from us," Mum bellowed.

The dinosaur whimpered and left.

"Wow, Mum, how brave you are!" I exclaimed.

"That dinosaur is a Guan Long. It is a Carnivore. Bi, you don't need to be scared. I will protect you as long as I am still alive!"

Mum and I went to find a good place to sleep.

"Over there will do perfectly, Bi," Mum suggested.

"Yes, it'll do perfectly!" I agreed enthusiastically.

Mum cuddled me. Mum's hot breath filled up my body. It was sunset. The sun was falling saying bye and the moon was rising saying hi. Soon I was asleep.

"Bi, get up! There is a sandstorm coming our way!" Mum rushed with all her might.

We raced a long, long way. Salty droplets sliding down my flaming hot face. One moment we were sprinting at top speed. Next we were diving into a dark and gloomy cave. Mum went to barricade the cave entrance with colossal rocks when I took a bite of an unknown plant. Pretty soon, I was sputtering and choking. Mum traced me like an eagle surveying its prey.

"Bi, what's wrong?" Mum questioned anxiously.

I tried to speak but that horrible plant was stuck in my throat. Mum examined the ground where the leftovers of the plant were.

"Bi, that's a poisonous plant," Mum gasped.

Mum kept striking hard on my back until I had nothing in my stomach to discharge out. All of a sudden, the rocks at the cave entrance collapsed and a greenish-grey dinosaur stomped in. The dinosaur grabbed and strangled me in a flash of light.

"Release Bi, Gregnard!" Mum roared.

I was being thrown from height and I could feel the parky ground under my feet. Gregnard soon left the cave.

"Mum, who is Gregnard?" I doubted.

"He is your Uncle! He wants you but he will never succeed as long as I am still alive!"

As times passed, I grew stronger and stronger. Mum trained me harder and harder.

On my tenth birthday, Mum and I were walking around the cave where I was born.

“Mum, can you hear something?” I queried.

“Stay alert, Bi!” Mum warned.

Abruptly, Mum was being seized from the back by a speedy and powerful creature. Mum was out of my sight before I could do anything to save her. She just left a crawl mark on the wall of the cave. My tears shot out like flooding. I wailed. I felt helpless. Anger overflowed me. All the precious memories circulated in my mind. I felt desperate and anxious. Fear stretched out through my body. Mixed emotions were spreading all over me. I kneeled down with my tears pouring down my face. I cried for a very long time.

Suddenly I could feel something tapping on my back. Spontaneously I whirled my tail, not knowing that Mum was behind my back. Both Mum and I could not hold our tears. We hugged each other so tightly that we did not want to lose each other. One of Mum’s legs was seriously hurt.

“Bi, leave here immediately and flee to the Mountain of the West! Gregnard is your Uncle and he wants you!” Mum exclaimed.

“Mum, who am I? Why does Gregnard want me?” I felt lost.

“Mum, I can’t leave you alone! I want to protect you! I love you!” I asserted.

“I promise I will come to The Mountain of the West to find you! Bi, you need to leave now,” Mum insisted.

Mum and I went out of the cave. I could not make up my mind to leave Mum. “Bi, flee now, Gregnard and his tribes are trotting towards us!” Mum got smaller and smaller when I was running away from her to the Mountain of the West.

Two years later, I decided to go back to the cave where I was born to find my Mum. I was confident that Mum was waiting for me in the cave where I was born. I arrived and all I found was only the claw mark of Mum on the wall of the cave! Flood of tears streamed down my desperate face!

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Thibault, Nicolas – 9*

China has quietly become the global epicenter of fossil-hunting. In the 1990s, a farmer found the world's very first clearly feathered dinosaur. Scientists called it *Sinosauropteryx*, which means "the China dragon bird". Since then, more than 40 dinosaur species have been found in the province of Liaoning, including more than 24 pterosaurs – winged reptiles.

Recently a new species of titanosaur was found in Jiangxi. Because China is less well-explored by paleontologists, there's much excitement about what will be found next—and what amazing stories the ancient fossils will tell!

Once upon a time, there were two boys, their names were Oliver and Mateo. They were brothers and lived in Shanghai, in a city named Jing'an. Oliver was the older brother, he was 13 years old and Mateo was the younger brother who was 11 years old.

One day, as they were walking past "Skin City", a stranger told them to come into his house for a cup of tea. Mateo said "okay", but Oliver declined and took his little brother with him.

On the way back home, Mateo asked his brother why he didn't accept to have tea with the nice old man. His brother told him it was a matter of life because he thought that the old man was weird. Mateo was so shocked by Oliver's words that he pushed his brother in the lake! So, Oliver climbed back up and wrestled him to the ground! But, as Oliver was trying to defend himself, Mateo slapped his brother on the face! Then, they stopped. As they walked home Oliver had a suspicious grin.

The next day, while they were passing by "Skin City" they met the stranger again! The stranger invited them again for tea but with biscuits, this time. But, this time, unexpectedly Mateo let go of Oliver's hand and ran into the stranger's house! So, Oliver decided to run after him.

As he entered the house, he saw Mateo and the stranger eating tea and biscuits. Oliver joined them and asked the stranger's name. He said it was Abner Smith. Mateo thought he was lying. After they had finished, Abner told them to follow him.

They did as they were told.

They followed him into a weird room. It was almost completely empty, except in the corner of the room, a small machine was laying there. Suddenly, Abner took a key out of his pocket and locked the door! He told them to get inside the machine. Oliver kept saying no! But Abner repeated "or else"! So Mateo screamed "or else what!" (he was the best outsmarter). "Or else I will eat you" said Abner. Oliver laughed because he thought Abner was being nuts. "Enough laughing", shouted Abner. Then, he gave walkie-talkies to them and said "get in there"! So, Oliver and Mateo got in the small machine and said "what are we supposed to do"! Abner locked the machine and replied, "Get me a dinosaur's bone"! He pressed a button and the machine started shaking!

One minute later, they found themselves in Jiangxi in a burrow and saw a tomb with "RIP" written on it! They waited a few seconds and a *Oryctodromeus* bones shot up in the air which started taking shape! Finally, It had taken its whole shape and looked like an *Oryctodromeus*. Then the *Oryctodromeus* said "how ya doin'?" Oliver and Mateo were creeped out so they ran out...the door??? It had a door!!! It was the weirdest thing they had seen in their whole entire life.



After that weird thing that happened they ran to a nearby forest to make a treehouse in the branches. Just then a colony of Sinosauropteryx came past them at turbo speed(they were made out of bones too)!

When they were done with the treehouse they added a ladder to climb up and somehow found a nearby store to shop at. They bought some food,a PS5, a T.V,beds,a mini fridge,chairs and tables,clothes and a car! Then they settled everything in their treehouse. When they had finished they went out to test their car. While they were driving(they did not have a driver's licence)they saw a bunch of Pterosaurs trying to attack them luckily they got out of there in time.Then a police officer dinosaur came and gave them a fine for driving too fast!

Then they went to bed.

The next day while they looked out of the window they saw a Fona Herzogae! They were so traumatized that they jumped out the window and landed on a motorcycle! Mateo said that he bought it while they were sleeping! They took the handlebars and roared off! They were at 605.69 mph(miles per hour)! They were going so fast that Oliver was almost on fire! “Slow Down” yelled Mateo.

They were going so fast that they went into a portal! On the other side of it they saw Abner! Abner told them to hand over the dinosaur bone! But as Oliver was going to say that they forgot it Mateo stepped in and handed it over!

The End

P.S The weird names like Sinosauropteryx,Oryctodromeus,Pterosaurs and Fona Herzogae are dinosaur names.

If you want to learn more about how Mateo got the dinosaur's bone, read my next book !!!

# The Very Last Day of The Sinosauropteryx

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Wong, Alessandra – 10*

In the lush, grassy land of dinosaurs, a small flock of Sinosauropteryx were sprinting through the forest. They chased each other with tails sweeping like ribbons. Some rested below the lofty trees. The day continued with a peaceful and normal atmosphere, but, one day, as the sun rose over the horizon, a strange darkness began to creep across the sky. The Sinosauropteryxes were too busy finding food to notice the grey, dim clouds which began to gather up together and block the sun. The echoes of the dinosaurs' sounds grew as each of them started to catch the sight of the clouds covering the yellow and orange sky.

As the day continued, the air grew thick. The ground trembled under their feet and, suddenly, a blinding blaze shone above the blues, followed by a great roar that sounded like a powerful thunder happening. A massive asteroid shot down at an unthinkable speed onto Earth.

The whole world transformed from green forests to flames of fire and chaos. Creatures started to leave their bodies and die. The Sinosauropteryx, feeling and seeing danger, took to the air and started to flap their wings furiously as they tried to escape this place full of craziness, death, danger and flames. But the smoke was very thick, and blocked the dinosaurs' vision.

As they flew higher and higher, the group found an immense cloud of ash and remains rising up to the sky, blocking everything the Sinosauropteryxes could see. Their relatives ordered them to fly away, but the darkness stopped them from flying. The temperature dropped to a low degree, making it hard to survive.

"Come on, go, now!" screamed a Sinosauropteryx.

"But it's so c..cold and dark! I don't know where to go!" shouted another.

One by one, severe conditions met the Sinosauropteryx. The great, light colours of their feathers faded and darkened as the freezing temperature touched them. In their last moment, all the prevailing Sinosauropteryxes huddled up together, remembering their best memories and collecting comfort from their friends as they faced the worst thing that could ever happen to them.

"This will be our last day of our life." one of the Sinosauropteryxes said, softly.

"Yes," agreed everyone, closing their eyes and breathing in the nasty air.

After the asteroid impact, the Earth was left with ruins and small flames. Everything silenced for a whole lot of time while the Earth healed itself, and, the flock of Sinosauropteryx, became dust of a lost age. Yet, all Sinosauropteryxes will not become a forgotten dinosaur.

# The Dinosaur's Egg

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Wong, Evelyn – 8*

Once there was a paleontologist. He went to China to find fossils because his family needed money.

One day when he was walking by the Yangtze river, the man saw a huge egg that was about to get washed over the ... waterfall! He jumped onto the tree branch dangling above the egg, and grabbed it just in time. After that the paleontologist brought the egg home to study it. He discovered the egg was a dinosaur egg. Suddenly, cracks began snaking up the egg.

The man tried to stop the cracks, but he was too late and a creature rose from inside the egg. The creature turned its head towards him and he saw a scaly head and a mouth with sharp teeth. Immediately, it jumped out of the window and started roaring at the people outside. Everybody was terrified, but they only managed to see his shadow, and quickly, the baby dinosaur disappeared. In fact, the baby dinosaur didn't mean to terrify people, he was just being playful and wanted people to play with him. He didn't fully understand what he was doing. He wouldn't eat people or birds, but he would chew stuff such as the trees or house walls. People saw the bite marks but they didn't know what made the marks.

The police were looking for the monster, everybody speculated the creature was really scary and dangerous. After a few days, the police came to look at the paleontologist's home. The man carefully sneaked out of the window, his neighbour, a childhood friend, helped cover his disappearance up by telling the police that he went out in search of some fossils. But the paleontologist actually went to put the dinosaur baby back where he found it.

He went to hide the baby somewhere. He bought back some animal egg remains and showed them to the police as evidence that the monster was actually a small animal. He managed to get the police to think that the monster was a little animal that had lost its mum. The police spread word that the monster was a baby. Then the paleontologist went back to find the little dinosaur.

From that day onwards the paleontologist would spend hours taking care of the baby dinosaur. He treated the baby dinosaur like his own son and named him Aaroy. He would feed the baby meat and wash him in the Yangtze River everyday. The dinosaur was growing bigger and bigger, he turned out to be a smart and good hearted dinosaur, but on the other hand, he felt sad, shy and lonely because he had no friends. To make him feel less lonely, he liked to sneak around and play pranks and steal food. He would often place balloons into people's houses and blow them up. He would give the stolen food to the people on the streets or to the charity. He also liked to write down notes to prank people. but no matter what, he always felt unsure of himself and not brave.

One afternoon, he snuck out of the paleontologist's home and suddenly he heard cries for help from outside. He quickly ran outside and saw twenty robbers breaking into houses and looting valuable stuff. In the distance he saw golden yellow and red flames. The villagers were too busy to notice the hot smoking fire coming towards them. To save the villagers Aaroy quickly jumped at the robbers and scared nineteen of them off. The last robber swung his club at Aaroy. But Aaroy dodged it and jumped at him. The robber screamed and ran off. The villagers stared at Aaroy awestruck. He ran to get some water from the Yangtze River and splashed it at the flames and the fire died down. A moment of silence and then everybody cheered.

People kept telling Aaroy how brave and smart he was. Since then Aaroy has been the village hero. Aaroy was very happy as he realised how brave and smart he really was. The villagers built a new house for him in the village. They praised him and gave him gifts but Aaroy thought the most important thing was not the gifts or the praise he received but it was being accepted and he was grateful for being treated like an equal and for no one being mean just because of how he looked or how he acted he treated everyone equally. He gave his gifts to charity. He didn't want anyone to live on the streets and a lot of people followed his lead to help others and everyone on the streets got new homes. The villagers turned into some of the kindest people on earth all because of Aaroy.

The moral is : Even a small thing can make a huge difference and treat everyone like you treat yourself.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Wu, Isabella – 11*

Dino raced across the sand desert of China, well ahead of his father, a scientist specialized in dinosaur research. He got this name from his father, who usually calls him “my little strong dinosaur”. It had only been a week since there was an announcement for finding dinosaur fossils. Scientists already found hundreds, maybe even thousands of tiny fossils hidden in the rocks and nooks of the little sand desert. There were millions of fossils all different in their own way, but neither of them was as special as the fossil Dino was about to find.

He raced ahead not knowing what would be waiting for him. If only he had known he might have run faster. He reached the center of the clearing, suddenly he felt a crunching noise beneath his foot, the sound sand being gently rubbed on fossil.

He found the spot then he brushed away the dirt, debris, ash and sand. He dug, dug, and dug. He dug like he never dug before. Soon his fingers brushed against a huge slate of stone as he lifted it out of the hole. He saw a faint pattern engraved on it, which was a fossil that was never discovered before, a fossil that was waiting to be uncovered. He was shocked that he, out of all of the people, had found a fossil that he squealed with surprise and joy. He just couldn't believe it. His fingers traced the familiar yet unfamiliar pattern of the fossil. A wave of subtle feelings rushed over him and he became engulfed in the dinosaur's memories.....

I swooped across the clear blue sky and everything was as it should've been. My black and white stripy feathers swayed softly in the light breeze. I was out hunting with my friends. We were laughing and talking as we chased each other across the sky. A huge Chungkingosaurus took a leafy green mouthful of fresh, tender leaves and scarlet berries from the branches above it. Its big scaly plate of armor bashing around, I laughed at the silly sight of leaves sticking out of his mouth as I flew away still joking around with my friends. My parents told me to come back after a few hours but I still had time, so I kept on flying without a care in the world.

Suddenly movement below me caught my eye, it was a scaly lizard. The patch of grass around it was soft and jade green. It was a perfect snack sized meal. I swooped down and caught it with my sharp orange beak, then I gobbled it up in one gulp. “Time to go home” I thought as I finished eating. I was inviting some of my friends. Later we were going to eat at my dad and mom's little cavern with all of their favorite food! But something was not right. The sky smelt off, but I didn't know how. A small spiral of smoke twisted its way up the mountains and into the clear blue sky. However, it quickly vanished as if it had never been there before. But a spiral of smoke turned into two spirals of smoke and two spirals of smoke turned into three. Soon the sky was filled with black smoke, thick with ash. Now I definitely knew what was wrong. The mountain was going to erupt! I never saw it happen before, but the moment I set eyes on the bubbling hot top, just about to tip over. I knew it was going to happen.

The eruption was slow and painful. Black smoke filled the sky even more and I slowly choked on the ashes. The mountain was bubbling over the top and it looked ready to explode any second. Soon there was a definite boom across the sky piercing my dinosaur reptilian ears. I saw one of my friends slowly falling to the ground, the vile smoke filling his lungs. I did not know it was going to happen so soon. I could hear my dad and mom calling my name over and over again from far away. However, the smoke was too thick, I couldn't see anything. The black fog swirled around me, blinding me. Closing my searing eyes, I slowly let the ashes bury my body.....

“Wow, look at what you have found!” exclaimed Dino’s father, who had finally caught up with Dino. The boy slowly looked up from the dinosaur fossil and his eyes lost in the memory. He recalled the painful death of the dinosaur and was only too thankful that it didn't happen at his time. Now he knew what he had to do yet. He had to bring it to the museum and let the scientists investigate. He wasn't going to turn it in for prize money, he wasn't going to turn it in for anything. He was going to do it for the cause of the dinosaur! Dino’s father helped him carry the heavy slate on his shoulder and went back. However, this time, he walked slowly and carefully, for the fossil could break if even for a single bump or impact on it.

One month later, Dino arrived in the museum. His fame had engulfed him, but thankfully, it hadn't gone to his head. He was watching while a scientist carefully examined every single little bone and every single little part of the dinosaur. Then they announced that the dinosaur was able to fly. Dino’s mind was also about to fly as well. He could imagine that, many years later, he watches the scientist explaining to small children like he once did, how the dinosaur moves and flies, how beautiful the feathers on its body are. Everyone has a different explanation, but only he knows the truth, which is something he will share when he is far older..... Dino walked out of the museum, gazing up at the blue, blue sky, where his flying dinosaur once freely roamed. That is the tale of China's new dinosaurs.

# Nobody Knew His Story

*The French International School of Hong Kong, Zhelyazkova, Nicole – 9*

2024, China, Liao Ning.

“Mama, look at that dinosaur! Such sharp claws. So scary!”

“Wow! That *is* really scary, Sammy.”

“What’s that in his mouth? Mama, read the description, NOW!”

Ms. Ying stepped forward, pushing through the crowd, but also aware not to lose her precious son, Sammy. Finally, she found her way and read out loud:

“Velociraptor: found on 1998, 13th of March. This dinosaur was found by the Yangtze River. The paleontologists found a fish in his mouth. It’s unusual because Velociraptors aren’t known to eat fish...” Ms. Ying stopped reading when she saw Sammy bored and sitting beside the window.

## **Cretaceous period.**

The sun floated out of the horizon, spreading its golden sunflakes on the places of the known and the unknown. Suddenly, shadows scampered in the underbrush, followed by a thunderous howl that echoed out of the creepy edge of the jungle. In one flash, blood spurted, and the jungle trembled as the Velociraptor claimed its meal. Ants grabbed the chance, scurried down the juicy chest, feasting on the remains. Velociraptors didn’t like such little annoying creatures fishing in their lovely meal. This particular Velociraptor was so hungry that he wouldn’t let a single ant touch his food, he wanted to keep every morsel for himself. Anyway, he was the one who caught it, so it was for him alone. A selfish decision.

The jungle’s food was getting scarce, and dinosaurs were fighting to eat. The small ones that used to prey on fish had started preying on bigger animals. This Microraptor wasn’t born at the right time, he had just entered this harsh world. However, he was a clever baby and just learned how to fly. One day, his father and mother went to find food, but they didn’t come back for a long time.

The newborn squealed.

*“Mother, Father! Where are you?”*

No response.

*“Mother, Father! Come back!”*

He squealed a few more times.

No response

Panic surged as tears flooded his eyes and rolled on his face. He cried a few more times but only the jungle responded with its eerie sounds

The sun crept away silently, the moon dropped, and the stars twinkled in the night. That Microraptor, exhausted, curled up and fell asleep, with a single tear glistening on his face. He was going hungry just like the others who were sleeping, maybe dreaming about a big slice of meat, fat and juicy.

One Velociraptor was reflecting about the happy times when the animals were plentiful; he felt unhappy... But an idea sprouted out of his mind; he knew it! He knew the perfect way to find food! Quick and agile, he sprinted out of his cave in search of prey. Finally, he found a perfect one, perched on a tree north of the forest. Not many animals lived there, and he tried his luck on him.

A Microraptor, interesting.

He climbed up the tree but with one THUD! He fell off the tree. The Microraptor woke up, "What's that? A Velociraptor! My god!"

The Velociraptor lay still on the tree. The baby flew down the tree; he discovered that the Velociraptor's eyes were hurt, and he could not see. The baby Microraptor felt sorry for him. Suddenly, the Velociraptor mumbled weakly, "Who are you?"

"Oh, er... I'm another Velociraptor," said the little baby in his normal little squeaky voice.

"Oh, OK," he muttered. "Why is your voice so high?"

"I, I was born with it... I do not know," the baby replied shakily.

In the next few weeks, the baby Microraptor became independent, he was sometimes stubborn but mostly he was brave and heroic. And he didn't forget the Velociraptor, every day, he would go to the river and fight for food. He also gave half to the Velociraptor.

Raindrops fell down from the dark sky. The Microraptor was engaged in a violent battle with another Microraptor. The other one, all covered with blood, had a little fish in his mouth. A little fish is indeed little, right? But it is not little for a diet of maybe a few fins daily. Though this fish was really stiff, he was trying to wriggle off his beak. The bloodied microraptor was scared that if he tried to fly out, the fish would drop. Suddenly the fish used his tail and slapped his face. Seizing the chance, the young Microraptor flew off and took the fish. Up high, he was trying to think how to share this tiny prey.

He flew up high to his tree, but down, under the great tree, the Velociraptor was gone. Footprints were scattered on the ground. The Microraptor screeched, and he flew up high in search of the Velociraptor. Finally, he found him, holding a big, fat fish, calling him. And we could hear it in his voice. "I knew you were a Microraptor, I just wanted to say thank you!". Suddenly, there was a rumbling sound that was getting louder and louder. The water started to swell and rise. The Microraptor turned back. There it was, the humongous wave approached. It looked like it got swollen from the heavy rain. The gigantic wave was getting closer, wiping everything in his way. It was in a hurry, charging towards the riverbanks. The Microraptor wanted to shout, "Watch out!" before the Velociraptor got sucked in. But it was too late. Without warning, that hateful wave engulfed him, and carried him away. The Microraptor tried to fly and get him, but the big wave almost wiped him away, too. A tear rolled down.

*"I'm sorry, I can't save you now."*



**2024, China, Liao Ning.**

“Mama, I want to go out NOW!” Sany scowled at his mom. Ms. Ying had no choice, she could just bring the little monster out for a while. But neither of them noticed that the Velociraptor was staring at a dusty corner of the museum, there was a little winged dinosaur. A little label on the glass frame said:

*“MICRORAPTOR ”*

# Sun Wu and the Stolen Fossil

*The Harbour School, Wong, Jonathan – 11*

“That can’t be right,” Sun Wu said on the phone. “Nothing ever happens at that janky old pier.” “That’s where you’re wrong,” a voice said on the phone, “Suspicious activity, probably black market dealings, can’t really be a coincidence that it’s happening tonight, can it?” “Alright, I’ll trust you this time, Watson.” Sun Wu said, and hung up.

Once he arrived at the pier, Sun Wu’s watchful eye spotted several large containers and trucks— large enough for a big dinosaur fossil. “Curious...” he thought for a moment, then crept around the corner. He saw five suspicious looking people, with impatient faces. “Looks like Watson was right this time— black market dealers, for sure. Could it be that they are planning to sell the fossil here? But where’s the seller?... Maybe these guys can tell me.”

“Policeman! Show me your hands!” Sun Wu sprang out from his hiding spot and shouted. “Police?? Isn’t the fake fossil supposed to...” one of the dealers exclaimed, startled. “Hey shut it!” Another one scolded to stop him from spilling the beans. They tried to run, but Sun Wu outran them and they were soon arrested. “Fake fossil, huh, thanks for the important info.” Sun Wu said, smirking, while fellow police officers brought them down to the station.

His phone rang again. “What is it now, Watson?”, Sun Wu groaned. “I’ve found an important email, we need you back ASAP.” Watson said. Sun Wu rolled his eyes, “This better be good.” he said to himself, and reluctantly started to make his way to the station.

“So?” Sun Wu asked, a tired look at his face, his trench coat soaked with rain and sweat. It’s been a long and hectic day since they have been called on to investigate a stolen fossil of China’s newly discovered dinosaur. “I’ve been digging through the profiles of everyone involved. What’s strange is that two scientists signed in very early this morning, and then left soon after, way before the exhibition even began. Crucially, they never signed in again.” Watson said. “So this leads you to think...” Sun Wu said, his thinking face on. “... that they might be the ones who’s stolen it.” Watson continued. “However, I can’t really make sense of this weird email conversation from a few weeks ago between these two guys.”

*Zhou Xin,*

*I’ve located a suspicious-looking container, curiously the same size as the dinosaur fossil, in the storage facility.*

*Interestingly, it has our boss’s name on it!*

*Ming Liu*

“‘Boss’— as in Professor Shen Long, the head of the research centre?” Sun Wu asked. “Obviously.” Watson responded proudly. A theory began to take shape in Sun Wu’s mind, so he told Watson, “Well I guess for once you’re quite useful.” Sun Wu said, “Quick, we’ve got to head to the storage facility.”

The storage facility was old and dirty. Tools and other materials lay around everywhere. And there it was— the huge container that the email referred to. Sun Wu opened up the box, revealing a huge fossil. “Well it looks like we solved the case. We’re good!” Watson said. “We’re good in your dreams— remind me, how did you get into Interpol?” Sun Wu sighed. “Hey! Be nice!” Watson grunted. Before Sun Wu could tease him any further, a figure entered the room.

“Ah! Welcome, Professor Spruce. Thank you for joining us.” Sun Wu greeted the professor. “The pleasure is mine—I’ve dreamt about helping solve a crime my entire life! I never thought it would happen while participating in an exhibition in China!” Professor Spruce replied. “Wait—who is he and why is he here?” Watson seemed confused. Sun Wu ignored him, “We need your expertise to see if this fossil is real.” he asked.

After a while, Professor Spruce came to a conclusion. “No, it’s not real,” Professor Spruce said. “Huh?? What do you mean not real— if this is not real, where is the real one!?” Watson was utterly stupefied.

Sun Wu paid no attention to Watson’s desperation, instead, he said cryptically, “I’m expecting a call from someone right about now, and that will lead us to solving this case.” *Ring ring ring!* Almost right on cue, Sun Wu’s phone rang. “Yes it’s me. Do you have him now? Running, is he? Yes. Ok, I’ll come over immediately.” Sun Wu told the person on the phone. “‘Him’? Who is ‘him’? And where are we going??” Watson asked. “Patience, Watson. You will see very soon.” Sun Wu replied.

When they arrived at the airport, they saw that Professor Shen Long had been arrested. “Wait a minute, why is Professor Shen Long being arrested? Surely he can’t steal his own fossil!” Watson exclaimed.

“Elementary, my dear Watson. Those two scientists who signed out early were indeed the thieves, but they were also the heroes of this story. You see, they stumbled upon the fact that Professor Shen Long’s plan was to sell the fossil in the black market, while keeping the exhibition going with the fake fossil so he wouldn’t arouse suspicion. Since their own boss was the villain, the poor scientists couldn’t trust anyone— their colleagues, even the authorities, so they were forced to steal it themselves to keep it safe.” Sun Wu finished. “Ohhhhhhhhhh!!! I understand now! That’s why Professor Shen Long was the villain all along!” Watson said. “Yes, his only fault being he assumed we— I wouldn’t figure all of this out.” Sun Wu explained with a touch of pride.

“It wasn’t me!!!” Professor Shen Long exclaimed as he was pulled away by a few police officers. “Oh, yes it was,” Sun Wu said, grinning. As he started to walk away, he told Watson and his colleagues, “Keep an eye out for the thieves and the real fossil— I’m sure they’ll turn up soon.” “Where are you going?” Watson asked. “Off to the next case, of course.” Sun Wu said, matter-of-factly.

# The Valley of Echoes

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Chan, Gianne – 10*

Dr. Madeline Ross was an amazing palaeontologist whose ambition was as fiery as her red hair. At the young age of twenty-two, she had not only received her PhD and was an early graduate in her field, she had also published several scientific papers, making her recognised as a hardworking and smart graduate among her peers. Despite her achievements, the male dominated still presented numerous challenges.

Dr. Madeline Ross was determined to prove that she was worthy of the position she was holding in her field, not only her peers, but also herself. The opportunity arose when whispers of a secluded valley in China's distant mountains reached her ear. This valley was rumoured to be the final resting place of the rare 'Zhenlong', a dinosaur who was thought to be extinct millennia ago.

Dr. Madeline arranged an expedition and collected a team of excellent researchers. Dr Jeffery Anderson, an experienced geologist. And Ethan Fletcher, an expert in ancient ecosystems. However, the team chemistry was riddled with stress. Madeline noticed scepticism among her male colleagues, who saw her as an intruder in their territory.

Madeline's excitement was tempered by fear as they travelled to the mountains. The locals described a valley where the earth appeared to speak ancient secrets.

However, there were warnings: beliefs about the valley being cursed, and anyone who went too far would never return. Madeline's colleagues mocked these stories, but she felt the weight of legends, as if the mountains themselves were filled with rich history.

Their first day of adventure proved productive. Madeline and her colleagues discovered shards of fossils from different dinosaurs, which fuelled her determination. However, as the days went by, they encountered many challenges. A thunderstorm blew down the valley, making the place dangerous. They sought shelter in a cave with old drawing on the walls describing dinosaurs and weird creatures, providing insight into the valley's ancient history.

While they waited for the storm to pass, Madeline offered her thoughts on the drawing, but her colleagues were showing scepticism. "These are just ancient drawings, Madeline." Jeffery scoffed. "We're here for fossils, not myths." Madeline felt frustrated because her enthusiasm for science and history was met with skepticism by men. Nonetheless, she remained strong, her spirit unwavering.

As the journey progressed, Madeline's discoveries became more significant. Fragments of bones pointed to the presence of the 'Zhenlong', with each discovery building her confidence in the valley's importance.

*Madeline laid in her bed, the moonlight shining through her tent, casting shadows on her covers. As she drifted into sleep, her dreams transported her back to where she was today, a rocky mountain with dried leaves and tampered flowers. There, amidst the wilted trees, she encountered a magnificent beast that once walked the earth — a long-necked dinosaur with shimmering scales that glistened like diamonds in the sunlight.*

*"Hello, Madeline," the dinosaur boomed, its voice deep yet soothing. "I am Zhenlong, keeper of dreams."*

*Madeline's eyes widened in awe. "You're real!" she exclaimed, her heart beating. Zhenlong lowered its long neck to her level, its gentle eyes sparkling with wisdom.*

*"I've watched you," Zhenlong said, "and I know you've been struggling. You want to be heard, seen, but your colleagues don't care. Why do you hesitate, why don't you speak up for yourself?"*

*Madeline felt a lump in her throat. "What if they think I'm difficult to get along with? What if they take my words as an insult?"*

*Zhenlong smiled, an expression of understanding. "Madeline, every person faces fear and doubt. Even I, as a creature of legend, had to learn to embrace my talents. If you give up, your dreams will wither like leaves in winter."*

*"But what if they think I am dismissive?" Madeline whispered.*

*"Failure is part of the journey to success," Zhenlong replied. "Every person has faced challenges. Remember, the sky is vast, and so is your dreams. Reach for them, and don't let fear anchor you down."*

*With those words echoing in her heart, Madeline felt a surge of courage. As Zhenlong faded away in her dream, she knew she would wake with new determination. In that magical dream, she learned that believing in herself was the first step to making her dreams come true.*

The following days, every insult from her male colleagues, Madeline turned to a chance to stand up for herself. To her surprise, not only did they stop excluding her, her colleagues, who were originally doubtful, eventually recognised her knowledge. They collaborated with a newfound friendship, driven by the aim to discover the valley's mysteries. Madison's desire lit a spark within them, closing the gap that had previously separated them.

Weeks passed by in a blur, and before Madeline knew it, her team had discovered an almost full 'Zhenlong' skeleton. Its bones shone under the sunlight, a beautiful beast who once walked the earth. Madeline was emotional as she stood before the fossil, the amazing result of her determination. This was her moment of justification that she was worthy in the scientific community.

Finally, Madeline and her team published their findings, which highlighted not only the fossil but also the incredible history that surrounded it. The journey was a peak point in her career, not only for the findings, but also how she proved herself as a leader. She had progressed from a young palaeontologist looking for validation to a leader capable of motivating others, especially women.

Madeline's inspiring story reached far beyond her scientific community. She became a role model for palaeontologists, particularly young women eager to forge their own paths in male-dominated fields. The valley, which was originally associated with superstition, has since represented success.

Madeline had a deep sense of fulfilment as she stood at the valley's edge. She not only revealed the secrets of the past but also served as a light of hope for those who dared to dream big. In the valley's echoes, she discovered her voice, which would resound long after the voyage's dust had settled.

# The Guardian of the Fossil

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Lau, Clement – 9*

Clumsy and foolish, an ordinary Chinese child named Wei was chasing chickens in his remote village because he had nothing to do during the summer. Dashing through the fields of rice with arms flailing, Wei snatched at the hopeless animals. He sabotaged nearly every crop that came in his way like a drunk man who just glugged down a liter of red wine. Consequently, the farmer's wiry son tripped and collapsed into the muddy ground. Although his shaved head was buried in the earthy soil, Wei chuckled to himself. Bewildered, Wei peered back at what he tripped on...

Wei soon found out that the thing he tripped on was something called a dinosaur fossil (he didn't even know what a dinosaur was), a rare object that could either be the footprint of the prehistoric animal, or their bones itself after they died. They were at least 10,000 years old! He learnt to keep it safe, because lots of people would want to sell the fossil and make lots of money. He was lucky that almost no one entered his small village in Jiangxi.

The following day, Wei noticed a swarm of jeeps arrive at his remote village. "Nobody ever comes here! What are they doing here?" he thought. The strangers looked like they had lots of money. There was a man dressed in a tuxedo and was on a phone call. "This discovery is gonna make us rich!" he said in a sneering tone. The tuxedo man was commanding his team of what looked like researchers and security to set up camp. "Why are they invading our village? They must be here for the valuable thing I just found! I must stop them."

When the sun disappeared and night fell, Wei began to set off an unfortunate series of events. When the intruders were asleep, he mixed some toxic pond water into their huge water tanks, which they put outside. He just had to wait until morning...

"Aaarghh! Get outta my way!" Wei was woken up like clockwork by screams from the strangers. The tuxedo man rushed by and ran like a crazed chimpanzee to the portaloo. One by one, the invaders all started to scream in agony and clench their bellies. Feeling already very uncomfortable, they were digging while the scorching sun blazed their skin. Little did they know, Wei had also sabotaged their sunscreen by swapping out the creamy, white sunscreen with a similar-looking substitute moisturizer. A few hours later, the men's faces were as red as chilli peppers as they finished their shift and returned to their campsite.

While the men were asleep, Wei crept around like a ninja in the dark and collected cow dung and mouldy bread before sneaking into the intruders' campsite. Scattering and placing the unpleasant objects all around, Wei's teeth grinned in the shimmering moonlight as he retreated back to his cottage. As the flies attacked, the strangers swatted the annoying pests away and shrieked in pain from the itchy sunburn. "Mission accomplished!" Wei said to himself.

The next day was Good Friday, but at dawn, the invaders realised that the day wasn't going to be good at all. First, they woke up to the sounds of pesky flies buzzing around while the awful stink of cow manure filled their nostrils. Then, they went to eat breakfast only to find a pile of fly eggs had been laid on their food. This was already a bad day, but Wei was going to make it even worse...

Last but not least, Wei remembered how he made a dent in the place where he dug the fossil out; there was still a 2 meter hole! He covered it with hay from the horse stables, which made the dent almost unnoticeable. Now he just had to wait until somebody came by...

When dusk approached and the sun kissed the world goodnight, the tuxedo man appeared. As he slowly swaggered towards the nasty trap, Wei prayed, "One more step, one more step please!" And as if God answered his prayer, the man stepped right into the hay, and fell into the hole. "No! My tuxedo is ruined! Help please!" the man

yelled, but nobody answered. Wei held a rope beyond the tuxedo man's reach. The man pounced towards the rope and hollered loudly, but Wei kept calm. "I'll only set you free if you don't try to steal our precious fossils ever again. Admitting defeat, the man yelped, "Okay, okay, okay!"

As soon as he was saved, the tuxedo man and his crew started to go away from Wei's beloved village. Wei decided to donate the fossil to a nearby animal museum. The museum, which was part of the tourism board, gave him a job to guide the tourists that came to Jiangxi to the dinosaur fossil exhibits in exchange for lots of money. Now Wei finally had something to do in the long, boring summer.

# The Ancient Crystal

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Leung, Ebbie – 8*

It was summer. Two school friends called Lilly and Asha were camping with their parents in the Hong Kong mountains. The girls were super excited because it was their first time camping together.

It was a sunny and beautiful day. The smell of seaweed invaded their nostrils. Suddenly, a note blew into Asha's face. It was ripped in half! It read, "Beware of..."

"That is very creepy!" said Lilly.

"Let's go explore the mountain to clear our minds." Suggested Asha's mum.

They went to the forest for a nice walk. Things were peaceful until they saw a dead boar!

"AH!" screamed the girls. The dead boar had a huge bite on its body and blood was leaking out of its neck. It was horrifying!

On the way back to their campsite, Asha said quietly, "Let's have a midnight feast, I got candy." Lilly nodded.

Finally, it was bedtime. The girls made sure everyone was in bed, then Asha reached for her bag while they heard a roaring sound!

"What was that?" asked Lilly.

"Let's sneak out."

They got their phones. They walked over grass, passed huge boulders, and finally found a cave. They found out what caused the sound, it was a dinosaur!

"Why is there a dinosaur? I thought dinosaurs were extinct millions of years ago?"

"Maybe this one was born after all died. I heard a new species of titanosaur was found in Jiangxi." whispered Asha.

Suddenly, Lilly tripped over a rock and woke the dinosaur! It was so huge that the girls were only less than half of its leg! It stood on its leg and started to chase them.

"Run!" shouted Asha. She rang the police but there was no signal. They kept running. Just as the dinosaur opened its terrifying mouth to eat them, it tripped over a huge boulder and fell towards the sea.

"That was a close one."

"We could have been eaten!"

"Let's hurry and tell our parents."

At breakfast, their parents just said the girls were having a nightmare because of the ripped-up note and the dead boar.

Summer ended; the girls told their science teacher about the adventure. The teacher called a paleontologist. When they found the dinosaur near the sea, it looked very weak. They saw it took one last breath and finally not moving.

The paleontologist was too excited to speak. "This...is unbelievable! This will make us famous!"

The next day, scientists proved the dinosaur was a titanosaur and put it in the biggest museum in town. The girls' names were written in huge and gold letters. This was all over the news. The girls were famous!

However, strange things happened... Tsunami, earthquakes and floods came all over...in Africa, China, Russia...

Lilly did some research online in school library, curious why this happened. "Legends says, there is one dinosaur in China that no one knows it exists. If it dies, the Earth will break into pieces after three days. The only way to save the Earth is to find the crystal in the dinosaur's cave."

"Oh no! But if that Legend really is true," said Asha when Lilly told her what she found. "Then we head to the dinosaur's cave, find the crystal, and then the world is saved!"



"But how the crystal makes the world normal?" asked Lilly.

"I don't know." said Asha. "Today is the second day, tomorrow Earth will break! We must go today! Meet me at the park at 8 pm."

It was 8pm. "I brought my pocket money! Don't tell my parents." whispered Asha. "Let's jump into a taxi and walk there." The taxi driver looked at them worryingly.

However, the crystal was nowhere to be found.

"Maybe that Legend wasn't real." said Lilly.

"We spent my pocket money for nothing!" yelled Asha.

"Don't tell me you care about your savings more than saving Earth!" Lilly threw a stone angrily at Asha. Asha dodged and it hit a wall.

Amazingly, where the stone hit the wall opened to reveal a maze. There were fire torches along the maze to light up the path. The girls forgot to fight.

They took a deep breath. Asha and Lilly stepped into the maze, and realized it was complicated.

"We won't make it", said Asha frustratedly. She leaned against a wall. All the fire torches went out!

In complete darkness, the girls were scared. When tears were flooding in both girls' eyes, arrows appeared. The little lights on the arrows started blinking led them to the exit!

They saw the crystal standing on a column! It was as beautiful as morning sky!

They tried to grab it. It didn't move an inch. There were carved words on the column.

*"There is something that could move the crystal.  
Something in this room, something on this root.  
Something you play with when you are wearing a boot."*

"What does that mean?" puzzled Asha.

"Should we start from what rhymes? Boot and root..."

"Something underneath this column just like people wearing a boot!" yelled Lilly.

Asha bent down to look. It was a dinosaur shaped fidget button!

They pressed the button. The sky-colored crystal flew to Lilly's hand. The crystal flashed rainbow. Suddenly a hole appeared in the wall and the crystal's rainbow flew out turning into a dinosaur with wings. The girls ride on it and flew all the way to down of the mountains. The dragon became so bright that the girls couldn't see anymore.

They were woken up by hikers in the next morning and were sent to police. Their parents called police last night.

"Did we save the world?" Lilly whispered at police station.

"I don't know. If there is no more tsunami today, I think we did it."

"Is this even real?" asked Lilly.

"I don't think we walked all the way to sleep in mountain, did we?"

They both laughed. Parents yelled, "It's not funny!"

Asha and Lilly winked.

# An Egg of Past and Future

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Suarez, Alexa – 9*

“Ring! Ring!” Dr. Rose answered the phone.

“Hey! It’s Mark Wright from the Paleontological Research Institution... There’s been a discovery in China of a Sinosauropteryx, we need you on the next flight.” Dr. Rose’s jaw dropped to the floor, and her blue grey eyes widened like balloons. She started to pack her things. Instead of Gucci dresses or Black Monster sunglasses, Dr. Rose gathered her notebook, pen and of course her camera and compass.

A day later, her helicopter landed in the middle of nowhere. Getting out, her blonde curly hair danced in the wind like the vines of a willow tree. Her partner, Dr. Jack, who was still trying to process everything, stumbled behind her. Around the rice fields, they saw sandy hills, rolling tumbleweed and some village huts grouped together. Energised after a good meal, they set up camp just before the sunset arrived.

At the break of dawn, they set off north towards the unexplored world of China. After days of searching and walking, Dr. Rose and Dr. Jack were both exhausted and dying of thirst. They suffered through painful red hot sunburn, worn out legs and dehydration until things took a turn. Mysterious and unreal, Dr. Rose saw an oasis in the distance. Running, she got closer to the water and trees. Water. Water. Water. Like a thirsty jackal, she leapt into the pond. All around her, she hallucinated rice fields, tumbleweed, villages and sand all eventually merging together as a big blur. Slowly appearing, a farmer started digging in front of her. When he looked up, he stared deeply into her eyes. Shocked, she accidentally fell backwards into a hole.

For 30 seconds, Rose tumbled like a ball rolling down a hill. “Ooh! Ah! Ooh! Ah!” Rose exclaimed in pain. When she came to a stop, she realized that she was very far from the surface.

“Jack! Can you hear me? I need help down here!” She shouted loudly.

“I don’t like it down here! It’s dark and spooky, plus you know I don’t like tight spaces!”

“Y–Yes m–mmam, I’ll go get help now.” Jack stuttered, then swooshed away. After the dust settled, Dr. Rose felt an aura coming from the distance. Hesitating and wondering, she slowly crept towards a new future up ahead.

After crawling, creeping and climbing through tight, narrow tunnel ways, Dr. Rose arrived at an opening. Her face lit up with excitement. Hanging from above, crystals stood before her like she was in a magical world. Everything suddenly felt a lot calmer, more peaceful and quieter. In the distance, there was a mysterious rock-like object sitting quietly upon an andesite podium. She slowly walked. As she got closer, goosebumps started to form on her skin and her hair started to rise up on her arms. It was an egg standing in front of her, but it was not just any type of egg, it was a rare find... She couldn't believe her eyes. It had a Yin Yang marking on it, the only thing she managed to say was “ 盤古!”

Rose whipped out the book she packed on ‘Chinese Myths and Tales’. According to the legend, 盤古 is a kid inside an egg and on the egg there is an engraved symbol of Yin Yang. 盤古 is an ancient myth of Chinese history which tells a story of a god that broke out of his egg and split it into two. Yin Yang means sky and grass. This egg is extremely hard to find in reality and after reading the text, Rose screamed at the top of her lungs “IT’S ALL TRUE!”

As the red sun started to fade, Jack found a rope ladder and rushed back to where he last saw Rose. Meanwhile, Rose was trying to climb her way out of the tight, narrow and dark tunnels like a burrowing mole. Soon she saw light

from above and the silhouette of Jack. Like a world cup winner with a trophy, Rose raised the egg above her head to Jack and exclaimed “Look! I found the egg of 盤古!” Jack looked at it in disbelief and fainted on the spot.

# The Story of Dr. Griffen's Fossil Finding in China

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Tsui, Charlotte – 9*

After hearing that China has a lot of fossils waiting to be found, Dr. Griffen packed his test kit and all the stuff he needed before flying to Liaoning province.

The 32-year-old male Australian scientist booked the earliest ticket he could get. He sat in C1 first class. The airplane prepared for take-off “Zzz! Grr! Shoo! Croc!” His belly was even bigger than a yoga ball and it was bouncing up and down through the night. When the sun rose, Dr. Griffen opened the window shade. The bright sun beams lit up his hazelnut eyes and made his pale skin extra shiny. Below he saw a thick, dense forest and seas of buildings in a massive city.

After getting off the Cathay Pacific airbus, Dr. Griffen called an Uber to take him to the Adventure Tours company where he could rent a horse. “Hey sir, this is your map, if you get lost, use this map to come back here. Also, this is your horse to rent, please pay for the rental fee. It is 500\$, and please do not lose this horse, if you lose your horse, please dial +852 9618 2486. Please enjoy your journey and stay safe.” Dr. Griffen’s face had grown as red as a tomato as he listened impatiently to the tour guide.

Gallop like a jockey, Dr. Griffen rode off towards the unexplored countryside. The trees stood tall like proud soldiers. ‘If only these trees could talk... what spectacular stories they would tell,’ he thought to himself. After riding for 1 hour and 45 minutes, Dr. Griffen went into a dark cave on his horse. Nervously they rode into the black, cold tunnel...

Gasping for air, Dr. Griffen had fallen off his horse and was crying in pain. He was lying down on the rocky ground as flat as a pancake. Through the darkness, he heard hooves echoing further and further away. Painfully limping on his twisted ankle, he switched on his headlight and continued to follow the enormous footprints that had caused him to fall. As he started to trudge, some loose rock from above dropped behind him. Wounded and fatigued, he sat on a rock to rest. After he caught his breath, he stood up and patted the dirt off his clothes. As he was walking, he tripped over a rock again and bruised his big toe. “Ow! I am having a bad day!” he shouted out loud like an upset child. His cheeks went red again and tears in his eyes swelled up. Angrily staring at the oval shaped rock, he noticed a piece of shell on the floor. He wondered, ‘What’s that?’ Why is there a shell on the ground? Swiftly, he opened his bag and found a brush to sweep off the dirt. With each little stroke, his eyes got bigger and bigger. “It’s blue? purple? pink... What weird stuff is this? It’s the size of a basketball, this can’t be a normal egg,” he said in a puzzled voice.

Digging through his backpack, Dr. Griffen compared this egg to all his newest scientific books but nothing was similar. So he looked some more and found old mythical papers which revealed the egg was actually a match with a dragon egg! It had the same colours, size, shape and texture. Dr. Griffen immediately burst into tears of joy and started to jump around like he had just gotten full marks on his test at school. “Dragons are real! I can’t believe that dragons are real!” he exclaimed to himself. He put the egg carefully into his backpack and ran back without hesitation for his fractured leg. Arriving back at Adventure Tours, Dr. Griffen was showing off and shouting “Look everyone! I found an egg!” But before he could continue, the tour guide shouted back “Yooo that’s great, but where is the horse!?”

# The Diary of Professor Sophie Xu

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Wong, Sophie – 9*

*Below is an excerpt of the diary of the renowned paleontologist, Professor Sophie Xu, that captured her journey from discovering a new species of baby Spinosaurus in Hangzhou, to the establishment of the world's first live dinosaur park in China.*

## 24 December 2024 – The Discovery

It's our lucky day!

Only twenty-four hours ago, my team of paleontologists discovered a massive fossil from the bottom of the freezing cold freshwater of Xihu, also known as West Lake, in the city of Hangzhou; and now, we have found an egg! A PERFECTLY PRESERVED dinosaur egg.

While other Zhejiang cities like are known for their many fossil discoveries, Hangzhou is not, so everyone is going crazy! We wonder what the fossil might be – could it be another Asian Tyrannosaurus? A feathered Sinosauropteryx? Or the plant-eating Brachiosaurus? We can't wait to find out!

Time to call Xiao Long (Little Dino) – my amazing best friend who is ALSO the local historian and scientist. She is a genius who grew up in Hangzhou. For the past six years, she has been working on a secret mission with the Chinese Government on a patented technology that would hatch fossilized eggs!

I told Xiao Long to get to Fossil Frontier (my paleontology company) right away, because I have an egg for her.

## 1 April 2025 – April Fools' Day

Yep, this company is way too busy to celebrate April Fool's day. The team has been working day and night over the past three months on the fossil. We are now zombies, getting approximately 10 hours of sleep every week.

Finally, on this glorious day, we can confirm the fossil came from a new species of Spinosaurus. Previously only found in Africa and Europe, we have discovered a Chinese Spinosaurus!

If you don't know what a Spinosaurus is, it is one of the largest predators ever to have lived on earth, with an iconic beautiful sail along its back. Dating back to 99 million years ago in the Late Cretaceous period, it is believed that Spinosauruses like to spend their time living in and around water. That may explain why we found it in Xihu!

After lots of thinking, we decided to call this new Chinese species of Spinosaurus the "Yuefeisaurus", after the famous general Yue Fei, who was a patriotic war hero and well loved by the people of China. What a suitable name as they were both such strong fighters!

## 1 June 2025 – Six months after the Discovery

Well, as for the egg, it is still not hatched, but I have full confidence in Xiao Long and I am not losing faith. After all, Xiao Long is a genius, and her technology is highly regarded by the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

## 7 June 2025 – Baby Yuefei's birthday

Just a week after my last entry, I got a call from Xiao Long early in the morning. I still remember her voice, shaking with disbelief and excitement.

“Sophie! You will NOT believe this. I was too tired to go home last night so I slept at the lab, and, and, JUST LOOK AT THIS!”

Xiao Long turned her phone around to let me see on our video call – THE DINOSAUR EGG HATCHED! I jumped out of my bed, and went straight to the lab.

What I saw at the lab was a tiny little pink dino, struggling to stand, yawning while flapping its spiny sail structure in attempt to balance itself. It’s a baby Spinosaurus!! My team confirmed that the baby dinosaur was indeed the same species as the fossil we discovered earlier this year. It’s a Baby Yuefeisaurus!

Baby Yuefei looked at me and purred. My heart melted. I knew that my dino would soon grow up to be a fearsome beast weighing over 7000kg and measuring 14 meters long, so I need to plan for its future.

### **1 September 2025 – Project Future**

Xiao Long and I have been taking care of baby Yuefei while preparing it for its future.

We have started to collect fossilized dinosaur eggs that were discovered around China. We got eggs from Liaoning, Henan and Guangdong provinces. It’s time for Xiao Long to do her magic!

Thanks to Xiao Long, we have found the perfect habitat for baby Yuefei in a very remote area in Hangzhou. It has large flat lands, streams of rivers and lakes of various sizes, surrounded by forests and greeneries, and an abundant of fishes in the lakes.

We are determined to keep Yuefei alive and make history!

### **1 December 2025 – Dream come true**

Today we have made history. Xiao Long and I had an important meeting with the Country’s President and the directors of CAS (Chinese Academy of Science) and the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, where we presented our grand plan.

After listening to the Chief Scientist discussing the pros and cons of keeping the little dinosaur, we showed them 6-month old little Yuefei, and our plan for the very first Cretaceous Park in the world, with live dinosaurs.

We presented in detail what the park would look like, inside and out; we explained how this would contribute to significant advancement in science and history; and the lucrative tourism income this will generate for the local economy.

With a nod of the President’s head, our grand plan was approved.

### **1 Jan 2028 – the Grand Opening**

Today is the BIG DAY.

Scientists from all around the world are visiting the beautiful Cretaceous Park with live dinosaurs. They look in amazement and disbelief, their eyes sparkling with ideas of future discoveries.

Looking at Yuefei’s twinkling eyes filled with excitement and hope, I made a promise to myself to help dinosaurs and scientists as much as I can.

As for Xiao Long, she became the Chief Scientist of Cretaceous Park. I’m so proud of her for inspiring young children to pursue the impossible and for bringing history to present.

# Dinosaur World

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Yung, Julien – 9*

Endless fields of emerald, green grass stretched out infinitely and scents of cow pat and mud filled the air. The noise of farm animals made him feel very annoyed. Minglee's job was to bring the farm animals into the barn when it was around 4pm. However, he didn't like doing his job because, for one thing, he had to stay in the sun and listen to annoying BAAHs and MOOs. And on top of that, he was surrounded by the awful stench of cow pat.

"Two, four, six, eight, ten, twelve, fourteen and... Hey! Where's sheep #15?" Minglee counted. He started sweating and thinking about the punishments he would receive if his parents found out a sheep went missing. *I better find this runaway sheep*, Minglee thought.

Minglee rode his bicycle to his family's cottage. He snuck past his dad laying on the couch listening to the radio.

Bzzt!

"There has recently been a fascinating discovery in Liaoning!" The radio blared, "A sinosauropteryx fossil has been found! Experts say the sinosauropteryx might have been a feathered dinosaur, and it might have had a reddish-brown color! The scientific name of this sinosauropteryx is *sinosauropteryx prima* which means first Chinese reptilian wing! Dinosaurs might have looked like birds in the past! Scientists reckon that the sinosauropteryx might have had a long tail!"

"Liaoning province! Exactly where we live!" Minglee's dad called out to his Mom.

Minglee ran past his parents to his bedroom to collect a few things for his journey. He grabbed a torch, a pocket knife, a box of bandages, and at last, the most important thing to Minglee, a pineapple bun, just in case he wanted a little snack.

"I'm just going to collect some fruits and I'll be back before dark." Minglee told his mom and dad

"Oh! Perfect! Try to get some extra mushrooms because we're running out of them and I need it for the soup I'm making for dinner tonight. Plus, it needs some garlic and there's a whole bunch of them near the cave." Minglee's mom said as she shoved a straw basket in Minglee's hands. Minglee quickly left before she could add more jobs to the list.

Minglee walked towards the mountains of forests that was just around the corner from his own house and found sheep-like footprints beneath a giant ginkgo tree. The sky was light blue but the deeper he went in the forest, the darker it got.

BAAH!

*Sheep #15!* Minglee turned to look at the direction of the call and ran towards it. Something white and furry caught his eye. Minglee ran full speed ahead, following the sheep into a cave.

The cave smelled like a soggy, smelly, sock and the only thing he could hear was the footsteps of himself and the sheep.

BAAH-AHHHH!

The sheep let out a high-pitched bleat and ran off as fast as lightning, past Minglee out of the cave.

"Wait! Come back! Get back here sheep #15 or I'll—

Suddenly, a terrifying, spooky roar as loud as ten thousand million gongs sent a chill down Minglee's spine.

**ROAR!**

Minglee squinted and caught a glimpse of what seemed like a hybrid of an ostrich and a lizard's shadow.

*I've never seen anything like that before!* Minglee thought. *Maybe it's an undiscovered species!*

Minglee took a step forward. SNAP! Minglee stepped on a branch and the sound startled the creature. The creature quickly disappeared into a hole. Minglee followed and jumped in too.

The next thing Minglee knew was that he landed on soft, long grass and saw a whole bunch of plants he never knew existed. There were also rivers that seemed endlessly long and the sound of a large waterfall nearby filled Minglee's ears. The smell of nearby strange flowers burned his mind with curiosity. The strange creature Minglee saw in the cave was now face to face with him. The creature was covered in brown and red feathers and had a long tail similar to a lemur's. *Ohhh! It's a dinosaur. The sinosauropteryx I heard on the radio!* Minglee thought. Growling, it bared its sharp teeth, endlessly snapping its jaws. It most definitely didn't like Minglee.

"AAAH!" Minglee yelled and stood up. He realized that the creature was just a little bigger than an average house cat—Except that it was trying to eat him! Minglee quickly pulled his pocket knife out and tried to defend himself.

Minglee climbed up a tree to escape the dinosaur and saw a whole bunch of sinosauropteryx below him. A sinosauropteryx stalked him and yanked it so hard it nearly ripped, swinging its sharp talons, and scratching him. *So the dinosaurs want my pineapple buns?* Minglee thought. *If they want it, they can have it as long as they don't eat me!*

Minglee threw his pineapple bun into the flock of dinosaurs and ran for his life up the tunnel he fell from. The flock of sinosauropteryx shredded the pineapple bun and devoured the yellow, striped, weird bun. To cover the hole, Minglee used all his energy and leaned on a boulder, still hearing the roars and squeaks from the dinosaur world below. Minglee was afraid of the things the dinosaurs would do if they ever came out.

Minglee then walked out of the cave and found mushrooms, and fruits in a few metres' range of him. He walked over, picked them up and stuffed them into his straw basket and found sheep #15 eating berries off a bush. Minglee then led sheep #15 back by using an apple he collected and lured him back to the barn.

Minglee went home, but before that, he dropped Sheep #15 off at the barn.

"What took you so long?" Minglee's mom asked the moment Minglee stepped in.

"I like picking mushrooms so much, I lost track of time!" Minglee lied and handed his mom the basket before she could say anything else, Minglee dashed to his room and thought about all the crazy things he did today...



# The Alectrosaurus Discovery

Victoria Shanghai Academy, Chan, Caia – 10

I looked down at it. Wow, I had never been so amazed in my life.

Today after the bell rang for the end of school, I ran home to finish my homework. After I was done I felt really bored so I decided to go to the country park and maybe do some gymnastics there. It was just a normal day like usual until when I was in a handstand I noticed a little whitish brown thing sticking out. “What was it? Why was it here?”

I wondered. Well, I didn’t know yet but little did I know I was about to find out.

The next day after school I walked to country park again, but I didn’t start doing gymnastics, instead I started using my shovel from the shed to chip out the whitish brown thing and I did the same everyday until one day half of the whitish brown thing came out and it looked way bigger than I thought it would be.

During recess today, I got permission to go to the library from my teacher Mrs. Anderson. I thought that it might have been a dinosaur bone so I left to do some research on dinosaurs. None of the dinosaur bones that I saw in a professional book were close to what I had seen at the country park, so I decided to go back for recess. Just as I was about to give up, something caught my eye, it was a book named *Chinese Dinosaurs: A Hidden Discovery*. There were only a few pages in the book, so maybe the dinosaur bone I saw at the country park was a Chinese dinosaur. Maybe I would get in this book!

So after school, I chipped out the dinosaur bone little by little. Chip. Chip. Chip.

I did the same everyday until.....

Clump! One day after school the whole bone came out. It was gigantic! I looked down at it. Wow, I had never been so amazed in my life.

I slowly carried it home, making sure that mom was out to buy groceries. I carried it into my room, emptied out my storage closet and set the bone on the floor. Then, I hurried down to a store that sold glass cases and brought a gigantic case that could fit the bone. I slowly and carefully put the bone into the glass case. Then I put the glass case into my storage closet.

I hid it from my parents for a long time until one day when my mom came to check on me and saw me cleaning and brushing the dinosaur bone. “What is this Lia?” My mom asked me when she saw it. I explained to her what had happened and she said that I should tell the local news station that I found a dinosaur bone and I’d be famous. So, I did more research and found out that the dinosaur bone that I had found was the skull of an Alectrosaurus!

The next day, I had to skip school and wake up really early to prepare for the interview with the local news station. I styled my hair the best way I could and put on my formal outfit that mom had helped me pick out yesterday and a black headband. Then, I went downstairs for breakfast, I ate a bowl of cereal, put on my shoes and got in the car to go to the news station. At the news station, I was invited to a room with a fridge containing drinks, some plates and some cookies on a tray. “Miss Wilson, You will be waiting here until the reporter is ready.” A woman in a grey blazer and a white skirt said to me. “Help yourself to the cookies and drinks” Then, she and my mom and dad went outside, now I was alone. I went over to the fridge and took out a bottle of cold water, unscrewed the cap and took a refreshing sip. I also helped myself to a chocolate chip cookie. After that, I opened my white backpack and reviewed my notes on what to say later during the interview. Next to the leather chair I was sitting on was a big bag that contained the Alectrosaurus skull. “Miss Wilson? The reporter is ready!” Said the same woman that brought me in

here. I walked out, then I took a deep breath and walked into the interview room. The reporter was named Mr. Antoine. He shook my hand and asked me my name, then I spoke from my notes and answered a few questions. Then, they stopped for a commercial break and I was told to go back to the room with refreshments. I took a sip of the water and reviewed more notes. Then, I continued the interview and went back home.

The next day, I was going on TV. I sat in front of the tv waiting. “*Now on to an interview with a teenager Lia Wilson about the Alectrosaurus Skull that she found*” said the same woman I had seen at the news station that day. As the interview went on my phone pinged a few times, so I checked my messages.

My BFF Lianna said “ **OMG, YOUR ON TV! #BFFONTV**”

My other BFF Lily said “ **WOW YOU ARE ON TV!!!!!!!!!!**”

My Classmate Ashley said “ **Is that you on TV?**”

When I got back to school I was extremely popular and everyone was asking me for my signature. But, I had to leave early to go to the opening ceremony of my alectrosaurus skull, sadly to my “Fans”. This was the absolute best experience in my life. I had never been happier in my life.

# The Experienced Huayangosaurus

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Chen, Howard – 9*

Once upon a time, there was a group of Huayangosaurus and its leader was master hope. Everyone admired him and was leader for 17 years already and he was only 27 years old. That means he started being a leader when he was only 10 YEARS OLD!!!He had a team of dinos but someone was a spy,he was Sir Richard. He was a very noble man and he was respected. Nobody dared to mess with him and that made him happy. Most of the dinos in the group hated him. He was rude to kids and only liked dinos that were rich and wealthy. Even his friends didn't know that he was a spy. And he was working for a big company, named Big stuff. This was the best and most used company in the land of Tarbosaurus

and their king had a big tummy. Every Tarbosaurus thought that he was funny and when some Tarbosaurus laughed at his tummy the consequences were deadly. Now let's go back to the present and see what was happening. It was dinner time and all of the Huayangosaurus were eating grass, but one of the Huayangosaurus was finding something, and that was sir Richard, he was finding for one thing, meat. You might be wondering, how could he hide his sharp teeth? Well here's the answer: big stuff invented a thing called face mask (nowadays we have face masks in the supermarket so that is not so cool ) and sir Richard had one of those masks,but nobody found out yet.(YET!!!)

On the other side of the world there was another group of Huayangosaurus and they had a very old leader called wise tooth, he was so fragile that other Huayangosaurus had to carry him around the place. One day, wise tooth died and everyone was sad. Nobody wanted to say anything and that's when they stopped walking and they were at a place in china named hong kong.One day the group that had a leader bumped in to the group that had no leader and when they saw the dead leader they knew what happened.they gathered down and begged that the leader had no problems in heaven.Everyone Was sad that the old leader died.so one kid shouted “why don’t you combine groups so that everyone is happy” and when sir Richard heard the news, he Freaked out he shouted ‘what In the world!’And suddenly a brief silence and everyone was looking at him, We could hear a pin drop at that time.Then master hope said “why are you freaking out, isn't it good news?”“yes... I mean no...”sir Richard stammers. “trader!”master hope shouted and seven to nine Huayangosaurus surrounded Sir Richard and accidentally ripped off his mask and everyone saw that he was a servant of the Tarbosaurus king!After that They had a rule that no more Huayangosaurus could enter this group,but nobody knew that spies were everywhere and watching every move.

Meanwhile, at king Tarbosaurus house, the king was raging,because spies were getting captured and his plan was being destroyed! so he could not take over the world.The Huayangosaurus was happy in Hong Kong so decided to live there.The army of Tarbosaurus came to Hong Kong to attack the group of Huayangosaurus but when they got there they saw that there was more Huayangosaurus and that was strange then the king saw master hope and knew what was happening and had to call reinforcements and that's when some nosey Huayangosaurus came and saw them.“aaaa!” He screamed and fainted. All of the Huayangosaurus came out to see what was going on, master hope came running out and saw the team of Tarbosaurus and was suddenly mad “what are you doing here,and what do you want?”“We want your flesh and meat,”said the king of Tarbosaurus,“fight!”and every dino started to fight for their life.Huayangosaurus fought with the spikes on their tails and Tarbosaurus fought with their teeth but somehow the Huayangosaurus were winning!One by one the Tarbosaurus left defeated and the king had no choice but to leave the battleground.“This isn't over yet!”Huayangosaurus the king shouted when he left.

The next morning, master hope called a meeting,“now that the Tarbosaurus know that we are a group,they will attack at any time,and bring more Tarbosaurus when they attack, so please can every Huayangosaurus train for another fight!”“Yes,”everyone shouted at once.from that day on the Huayangosaurus started training everyday but still the Tarbosaurus king still had spies out there and every spy was learning how the Huayangosaurus lived and with that formation they knew what was going do when they launched the attack. But they didn't know that they had a

personal gym and they had very cool weapons in their houses.and after ten years of hard work the Tarbosaurus finally attacked!

Bang!crash!The Tarbosaurus came thundering in,the Huayangosaurus saw that they were so big and muscular but they didn't have weapons. and because of that the Huayangosaurus had advantage, the Huayangosaurus put small knives in their tails so that their hits would be stronger. Both teams had teammates that died and the Huayangosaurus prayed that the Huayangosaurus in heaven had a better life.But the king of Tarbosaurus didn't care who died and only cared about winning this war, so no one in his team wanted him any more so they joined forces with Huayangosaurus team,and defeated the the king of Tarbosaurus , and was the strongest group in the place. Generations of them died and lived and so we can find them in China or Hong kong.

A fun fact for you: the fossils were found on port island,while experts believe that they were from the Cretaceous period, about 145 million to 66 million years ago.

# An Honest Mistake

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Cheng, Hannah – 9*

“And that is the end of our class. The homework for today is to research on dinosaurs in the Cretaceous period.” said Ms. Young, the new history teacher.

After Ms. Young stepped out of the classroom, the students started chitter chattering.

“Not homework again!”

“Dinosaur extinction?”

“Oh no! I don’t have a clue.”

“Let’s board the time portal at Mr. Davison’s Lab and travel back to the cretaceous period to study some facts about dinosaurs!” said Layla, a petite girl with a gifted IQ of 200!

“Great idea! Shall we go near Sai Kung where a dinosaur fossil was recently found?” suggested another student.

At last, all the students agreed and headed towards Mr. Davison’s lab.

“Hurry up. We have to go into the portal before Mr. Davison comes back!” Layla glanced over her shoulder, as the sound of heavy footsteps echoed down the hallway.

The students quickly jumped into a dark indigo blue portal shining on the ground, just before Mr. Davison came back to his lab from lunch.

Traveling faster than the speed of light, they were driven into the swirl of time dimension. With a blink of the eyes, they landed safely in a misty forest, where deep ominous roars were echoed and flying Microraptors were soaring in the dark gloomy sky of coastal area near Southern China.

“Look at that Ambopteryx! It’s gliding with its bat-like wings!”

The children’s faces lit up with excitement, pointing and gasping at the spectacular sight of prehistoric species ahead of them.

It was a peaceful moment, but an ear-splitting thud shattered the silence. A Zhuchengtyrannus was knocked over by a Guanlong’s ambush. The Zhuchengtyrannus let out a groan of pain and surprise. It quickly rolled to regain its footing and countered an attack with its powerful talons.

Eyes wide opened, the students sprinted with fright to the bush while the two dinosaurs were battling each other. Back to safety, they jotted down their observations for their projects.

“Wow! The battle between the prince of tyrannosaurs in China and the crown dragon was so cool. I wonder who would win.”

Out of the blue, an intense light appeared in the dull sky. A humongous fireball erupted and the earth began to shake violently. All the dinosaurs fled from the approaching asteroid, creating deafening sound by their heavy stride and thundering roars in despair.

“Oh no! Dinosaurs are running towards us and an asteroid crashing down. Let’s go back.” Layla yelled as she pressed the red escape button immediately. A shimmering portal hovered in front of them and at the next second they were back into modern time.

Before the children heaved a sigh of relief, a familiar voice screamed loudly from the hallway. “Help me!” Ms. Young dashed into the classroom and continued, “A humongous creature with vibrant feathers and menacing eyes

was prowling towards the hallway from the sports ground, but it was too big to get through. “ Just then, Layla realized that she forgot to close the portal door and brought back a prehistoric dinosaur together with them.

Suddenly, a mighty roar shook the whole school. The sound of its sharp talons scraping against the floor sent a shiver through the air. The mysterious creature let out a deep shriek and stomped out of the school. With each step it took, its extremely long whip-like tail destroyed every nearby building, as if it was a paper toy.

Panic set in, everyone was overwhelmed, except Layla who had already got a plan in her head. With her petite figure, she crawled through the ventilation pipe and fetched a big bag of item from Mr. Davison’s lab.

Standing atop the rooftop of the school, Layla put a heap of carrots laying there. She took a deep breath and blew a whistle with all her might. The piercing sound echoed through the whole area and caught the creature’s attention. It paused and honed in on the source of the noise. Its eyes locked onto Layla, who could feel the weight of its stare. Layla juggled the carrots and quickly hid behind the wall. The colossal creature lowered its long neck and started to dig in to the heap of carrots.

Seizing the opportunity, Layla retrieved the shrinking pills in her pocket and tossed them directly into its mouth. The dinosaur began to shrink. The once-menacing creature now appeared like a puppy-size lizard.

“Good job!” Everyone cheered.

“Yes, I did it! Based on its enormous size, long neck and strong tail, I speculate that it was a herbivore. Since there was no vegetation in the city, it was simply looking for food and unintentionally crushed the surroundings.”

Layla continued, “I’m sorry that I left the time portal open. Look at this sauropod. I’ve never seen it in any book. It has been trying to come through the portal because it was trying to escape from the asteroid attack and followed ushere.”

“Just be careful next time, Layla. There must have been other species of dinosaur in China. What shall we do with this little fellow?” Mr. Davison pointed at the shrunk dinosaur.

Layla smiled, “Can I take care of it, Mr. Davison? I’d name this new dinosaur, Fenghuanglong, meaning phoenix dragon. I’m attracted to its vibrant feathers and I would like to study more about the characteristics and behaviours of this new species.”

Mr. Davison nodded. From then on, everything went back to normal. Layla brought Fenghuanglong back to its era.

# Feathered Creature

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Ching, Lauren – 10*

“The sinosauropteryx fossil has been located and brought to the lab, it is currently safe.” The voice of the Fossilator XV came through the intercom. Lisha pressed her ear closer to the speaker. She lived with her parents at the Liaoning discovery lab, also known as the LDL.

At once, all the grown ups gathered around the panel, suddenly interested. They spoke in hushed whispers. What they didn’t know was that Lisha heard it all.

“We all know that, but I haven’t seen it yet,” Lisha’s dad called out loudly, addressing all the people in the room.

“All I know is that the sinosauropteryx is supposedly feathered. Apparently, it has filament-like feathers on the back of its skull and its back.”

Lisha’s mum nodded. “The museum will be here to pick the fossil tomorrow. They’re bringing it to the scientists so they can research and find out more about it.”

Lisha rushed over to the panel outside the meeting room. “Everyone’s so excited.” Lisha typed out the dinosaur’s name on the keyboard.

“Si-no-saur-o-pter-yx,” the robotic voice of the panel pronounced. “Located. Safe in the LDL. Showing, ‘sinosauropteryx’.”

The panel screen showed a diagram of a small, feathered dinosaur that looked like a medium sized monkey to Lisha. She scrolled through the page, and found a handful of facts.

*The sinosauropteryx eats carcasses, baby dinosaurs and eggs, sometimes lizards and insects.*

A thought suddenly occurred to her. She could actually visit the fossil whenever she liked when it was brought to the museum. Her lips curved into a hopeful smile as she thought about the fossil.

Lisha shut the panel off as the door of the meeting room opened. She stood up and dragged her feet over to the corner behind the glass door.

The adults poured out, chatting mostly about the special dinosaur, thrilled to have it in the lab. Mr. and Mrs. Zhang stepped out, unclear of Lisha’s presence. Lisha overheard their conversation.

“Mr. Li’s asking us about the dinosaur,” Mr. Zhang remarked.

“He wants that thing alive?”

“He wants to keep it, like a prize only he would have. He’s paying us twelve million dollars to use the fossil and bring the feathered dinosaur back to life! Quite a deal, huh?”

Mrs. Zhang frowned. “Nice bit of money, he’s offering us. I’d take the risk. We’d better steal the fossil and revive it tonight.”

The two grinned, then left the lab for the grounds. Lisha stood perfectly still like a statue, fearing what would happen if the revived dinosaur was wandering on streets and randomly attacking people.

“Mom, the Zhangs are planning to bring the sinosauropteryx back to life and sell it to someone!” Lisha told her parents eagerly for the eleventh time that day. “It might be dangerous!”

“Of course not!” Her mom replied, still working on her tablet. “The Zhangs are fantastic paleontologists. They are really friendly to us. They would never betray the lab!”

Lisha was disbelieving. She knew that the Zhangs were going to revive the sinosauropteryx and would shock everyone.

Lisha had been pretending to sleep when her parents sent her to bed. When she heard the door of her parent's bedroom swing shut, she cautiously nudged her bedroom door open and left for the family's living room. Her dad's work tablet was charging on the wooden shelf. Lisha flipped the lid up and guessed the password— her birthday.

On the screen it said, namely, 'New sinosauropyx!' Lisha clicked onto it and it showed her three options: facts, location and collection. She chose the map of the lab and where the fossil was located inside the LDL.

Lisha followed the red dots on the tablet to where the fossil was being kept. It was in the Display wing, a big part of the lab with separate rooms for each fossil and robots to look after them.

In the distance, she heard roaring. Her heart dropped and she froze.

She was too late.

The Zhangs had arrived before her and revived the dinosaur to give to the rich Mr. Li. She couldn't flatten the sinosauropyx back into a fossil, there was no machine for that. The only choice was to lock it up.

As she continued walking, the roars got louder and louder. Lisha's eyes grew big with fear. What if she herself got hurt, too?

The corridor came to an end and pressed close to the wall was Mr. And Mrs. Zhang. Lisha's mouth opened wide with shock.

"You actually tried to bring the dinosaur back to life," Lisha spluttered. "Now look at you two! You're both hurt and scratched!"

The sinosauropyx turned to face Lisha. It growled deeply and took another step towards her.

"Help us! Save us! Save me *first!*" You are our only hope!" Mrs. Zhang cried.

Lisha snorted. Even then, the Zhangs were still selfishly only thinking about their safety. She didn't flinch when the dinosaur started charging towards her. She pressed the red alarm bell on the wall and immediately, emergency lights started flashing.

Ten seconds later, the security team had arrived. The dinosaur was still howling fiercely. As it did, the guards hauled a big black net over its head and captured the sinosauropyx.

"You two are in big trouble!" The big, meaty security guard boss said as he grabbed the Zhangs by their waists. Mr. Zhang was shielding his eyes and screaming, "Please don't hurt me! Please don't hurt me!"

"Now you, and you," he pronounced clearly, and pointed at the Zhangs like they were cheeky little children.

"Come with me."

Lisha let out a deep breath. Her troubles were now gone and she could enjoy the rest of the night.

When Lisha woke up in the morning, the first thing she heard was the birds chirping. The air was crisp. It was only then when her memory came back to her, the thought of saving the whole town from a rampaging, wild and alive sinosauropyx made her smile. She could now be a dinosaur tamer.



# I Am Seth

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Fan, Jacky – 9*

“Seth, I trust you enough to use this!” My mom said while giving me a phone.

Today I got my first-ever phone from my mom, but to be honest, I hate it.

“Thank you so much for the phone. I like it SOOOO much.” I said in a sarcastic tone while staring off into the distance.

“Good night, mom.” I walked into my room and threw the phone on my bed.

The phone is so old and ugly. I think I would get a super ultra omega deluxe brand phone. At least let me play Fight Planet with my friends. It has no games, no social media. There isn’t even a calculator! How do I cheat on tests – I mean, work vigilantly with this? All it has is a useless app that allows me to chat with persons authorized by my mom! Literally, I can only use this phone to communicate with my MOM! I expected to be poorly monitored!

All of a sudden, “Ding Dong” – A text message notification noise startled me.

“Hello? Is Seth there?” A message from an unknown number appeared on my phone.

Aha... I know it’s from my mom. She’s testing if I would chat with anonymous people. I decided to chat with my “mom” with a sarcastic attitude for extra prank factors.

“Yeah? How do you know my name?” I replied.

“Please save me. I am from the year 2055.”

Time travelling? Does my mom think I am a student from preschool and will believe it?

“Cybernetic dinosaurs have taken over our land. Us humans are their slaves.”

Even I can make such stupid ideas. Cybernetic dinosaurs are killing us all, what's next, radioactive plants come alive and take over, right?

This future guy kept on sending me messages.

“This is all because of our supreme leader, King Hector. He is a dinosaur plus AI plus robotics genius. But sadly, he was bullied as a child which caused him to hate society. He changed our land!”

“You must help Hector, or else he will create the cybernetic dinosaurs and kill us all! Be quick, the fate of the entire universe is in your hands!”

“FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNIVERSE, COOPERATE WITH ME UNLIKE THE SARCASTIC PERSON YOU ARE!!!!”

Seriously? Sounds like a boring side quest but it is definitely a reminder to be kind and helpful. Like, what even is cooperation?

I am tired of these idiotic conversations with my mom.

“Goodnight, my dearest mom. School tomorrow, bye.”

★   ★   ★

I didn't sleep very well last night after reading all those nonsensical messages from my mom.

I rushed to my school as usual. At the entrance of my school, I collided with a skinny guy wearing our school hoodie. All of our stuff scattered across the floor. He said, "I deserve this" and bolted away. I felt concerned. The skinny guy's diary was left on the ground, and I was astonished to see the words on the cover – "Hector's Diary". I couldn't resist the temptation to read it.

"I have had enough with all of these stupid idiots bullying me and manipulating me wherever I go. Nobody I trust believes me. They say it's just "kids playing" garbage. When I tell the teacher, they call me a "snitch". When I run away, they call me weak and wimpy. When I hide, they call me a scaredy cat. I am going to build cybernetic dinosaurs to destroy everything. There's only a matter of time before I take my revenge. If I can't have anything good, nobody can."

One page caught my attention:

"Targets by year 2055:

1. Get the DNA of all 200 dinosaur fossils from 160 million years in the world's most renowned dinosaur fossil sites, Dashanpu Middle Jurassic Dinosaur Fossils Site in Sichuan Province
2. Create cybernetic dinosaurs with real dinosaur DNA
3. Punish humanity
4. Cause endless mayhem
5. Profit"

OH MY GOD!!! Those goals are all helping towards WORLD DOMINATION!!! Is he the King Hector who will rule the future world?

I needed to find out the answer!

"I think I've found Hector. But wait, why am I trusting you? I don't even know your name!" I was trying not to be susceptible when sending the message to the future guy.

He replied instantly.

"I can't share my information with you yet."

"A cybernetic dinosaur has prohibited us from telling others our names."

"Miraculously, they still haven't realized that I am using this phone."

"Strict laws have been put in place against our will."

"Even contacting someone will cause DEATH."

"Therefore, you should head off and save Hector."

"However, it won't be easy. Be warned, anything you do could influence the future. Now go, while you still can."

It would be easier just to not help him. After all, that future guy could've lied. But I thought about it, and I never thought I would say this, but I actually felt bad. You know, I had a feeling this would be worth it. That's why I

decided to help Hector. But how? I decided to start helping Hector through his struggles, and for some reason, I myself started to feel happier and less sarcastic than usual. I even learned what cooperation means! Slowly but surely, I turned into a kind and humorous person! I started to feel more positive. I actually became best friends with Hector! Who knew being friends with a future evil maniac could be so fun! I even started to be grateful! Now I only want a super deluxe brand phone!

I didn't receive any messages from the future guy (or my mom, I'm not sure about it) anymore. I started to miss the mysterious future guy's dumb ideas. The only thing I could do was to read his old messages again and again.

At the end of the day, I realized something... by stringing together the first letter of the messages he sent to me on our last chat.

I saved my future self.

# The Last Horned Traveller

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Fu, Charlotte – 10*

27-5-2498

All I remember from my past is swimming freely in the warm water, rolling around in the dirty mud to keep me cool. I remember playing with the other rhinos in my water hole. And I remember seeing a short man with black hair in a white coat trap me in a cage, and transport me to this room full of people who hold bottles of colourful liquids and fancy gadgets.

I start banging on the glass with my tusk, but it won't break. I stop and look at my reflection. I have grey skin and thick legs, the horn on my snout is bigger than what I expected. The man who captured me comes in with another man who has long, blonde hair that is tied back in a tight ponytail.

"The Velocirhinoceratops," the short man starts, "is a reminder of the boundaries of scientific experimentation and the and the consequences of merging species in ways that nature never intended." He points to me and some other animals in the chambers across from me. I see an animal that has a long body and tail with green skin, a lot of bumps on his back and four short legs. The creature opens his mouth and I see that he has sharp, yellow teeth.

"Tell me more about this Velorhinotops, Professor Chan." The tall man says, striding towards me.

"Velocirhinoceratops." Professor Chan corrects him. "The Velocirhinoceratops would have a large, broad skull resembling the one of a rhinoceros, complete with a horn on its snout for defence. The mouth would be filled with peg-like teeth for a herbivorous diet. The back would have a series of small frills similar to those of a ceratopsian, providing additional protection against predators. The forelimbs would be shorter and sturdier, while the hind limbs would be long and powerful, granting it a surprising speed for its size."

Professor Chan walks over to a big machine and rests his hand on it. "I will send ten Velocirhinoceratops back into China's past using this Time Machine to the Cretaceous Age, where they will learn to live like the other dinosaurs."

Dinosaurs? Professor Chan strides past the blonde man to a woman with blue hair and pink goggles who is reading a book.

"Clarissa, may I?" She hands him something next to her book that I can't quite make out, then he walks toward me and I see that he is holding another needle. I feel a jab before everything goes black.

As I slowly awaken, my surroundings come into focus. I am in a larger chamber, unlike any room I have ever been in before. As I try to snort, a strange sound escapes my mouth—a loud, deep howl. Confused, I look at my reflection and am startled by what I see. My skin is green, with darker triangular lumps running down my back. My front legs are shorter than my hind legs. But most shocking of all is the shape of my head – it remains the same as before.

Suddenly, Professor Chan appears and begins injecting what he calls a "tracker" into the left side of my back. The other creatures that look like me are also being injected and we are all loaded into the Time Machine.

## **Cretaceous Age**

The Time Machine lurches forward, and I feel a sense of weightlessness. I close my eyes, unsure of what to expect. After what feels like an eternity, the machine comes to a halt and the doors slide open. As I step out, the first thing I notice is the thick, humid air. It's unlike anything I've experienced before.

This place feels alive, but it's also dangerous. I can sense it. What threats are hiding in the shadows?

A deafening roar rips through the air. I look up to see a massive dinosaur towering over us. It lets out another roar, and starts chasing me and the others. We reach a rock wall, and we duck behind it.

Suddenly, the ground shakes beneath us. Panic surges in my chest. I look up to see a gigantic, fiery object hurtling through the sky. My instincts tell me to run, to hide.

The object crashes into the ground with a terrifying force, sending shockwaves rippling through the forest. Dust fills the air, and I can barely see. The roar of the impact is deafening, drowning out all other sounds. It feels like the earth is splitting open.

Suddenly, the bright sky darkens, and a cloud of ash and smoke rises upwards, blocking the sun. I can hear the distant cries of other dinosaurs as they panic, their instinct for survival kicking in. The air is thick with the stench of burning vegetation and fear.

Then, the first wave of heat hits us. I stagger backward, my instincts screaming at me to flee, but there's nowhere to go. The sky is filled with falling pieces, and the ground is shaking like a stormy sea.

The Velocirhinoceratops scatter in different directions, but I can't move. My body feels trapped by sheer terror. The heat intensifies, and a blinding flash of light fills the air. I shield my eyes, but it's impossible to escape. I can feel the heat closing in, suffocating me.

And then, darkness falls. The fire consumes everything, and I lose sight of the world around me.

## **Present day, China**

A team of palaeontologists dig through the layers of ancient earth. Amongst the fossils, they discover a peculiar creature—a blend of a rhinoceros and a dinosaur.

“Look at this,” a researcher says. “This could be a new species.”

But as they examine it further, an unsettling feeling washes over them. The unusual features of the fossil seem to tell a story of a time long gone. The team exchanges worried glances, wondering about the events that led to its existence and what threats might still linger from its past. Little do they know that the real dangers lie in the future.

# Life Besides a Dinosaur

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Guan, Claire – 9*

It was time for bed like any other night as I changed into my pajamas , ever since I was small , I had always had fear of monsters under the bed , I would normally hug Clover in my arms whispering, “ Don’t worry , I will make sure that there are no monsters around the bed tonight ! ” I promised her .

The next morning I woke up as a sleepy head , blindly reaching out for Clover until ... I finally opened my eyes ! Uh oh ! She was missing!

I tried to look for her around the house, maybe she was playing hide and seek with me? Was she out and about? Did she walk herself without waiting for me ?’ A small voice echoed in my head the whole day . So,I decided to search the neighborhood, hoping that someone would have seen her but nobody did. I left in vain, feeling very devastated .

That night as I laid down onto bed , I couldn’t stop thinking about what had happened to Clover. Tears flooded my eyes as I watched the door carefully, hoping that Clover would come in a second later but the door remained untouched . My eyes filled up with tears as I turned of my night light , every thing went still and I was about to close my eyes when I felt fur rubbing on my leg , I reached out to turn on my baby pink coloured night light gifted from my moms sister , Rita . As I lifted up the blanket I saw ... a muddy paw print on my bed along with a little bath of beige coloured fur , I decided to lift up the blanket and ... I saw more muddy paw prints ! So I decided to follow along .

After a while I clearly wasn’t going anywhere in the house , the footprints were circling on and on ! That was until I saw more muddy footprints leading outside my room ! I followed the footprints and they lead me into the dark dark creepy attic , the place full of unknown ghosts , the muddy paw prints grew bigger and bigger until I was sure they didn’t belong to Clover anymore it must had been a dinosaur trespassing our house ! I peaked behind the deep deep red curtain on the wooden oak planks and I could not believe my eyes ! There sitting in front of me was a massive version of Clover ! That couldn’t be right , I reached out for her but right before I could touch her ... I saw a huge purple portal in front of me , just as I was about to step away a 3 D printed toy dinosaur egg with a toy dinosaur inside got tangled in my hair , it was given to me when I was just a newborn baby , my friends parents played guess the baby’s gender and bought me some white elephant toys as a funny joke , thankfully my parents thought it was funny . But just as I was about walk away from the portal , I got sucked in .

As I opened my eyes I could immediately feel the intense heat , after sometime my eyes started to get used to the intense heat until ... something brushed my

Legs I turned around and saw a real life yinlong dinosaur standing right next to me ! I started in horror as its face loomed over me , you could easily tell that it’s face and body features were still 3-D printed. It was yet chunky and felt like it could fall apart any time but somehow I still held together like a brick trying its best to hold onto a skyscraper without damaging anything . He bent down towards me and asked “ are you the one who bought me mortal ? ” “ Uhhh where am I ? ” In year 154 in ancient china. a million years ago before 2025 I am Jonas . ” “what ? I can’t stay I can’t be here , Oh no what have I done ? ” I panicked and ran blindly towards the West and slammed right into what looked like the Great Wall of China that’s when I knew why Jonas was chasing me , that wall was a mamenchisaurus then rain dropped down from the sky it was raining but when I looked up the dinosaur was drooling .

Finally after running miles and miles and miles and miles we finally lost track of where the great great great gigantic dinosaur was me and Jonas found the closing portal and got sucked right back into my apartment. From now on he was known as the gentle monster who lived under my bed.

# The Fossil in the Woods

Victoria Shanghai Academy, Lau, Chi Yan – 9

As Becky walked towards the woods, her grandmother called after her, “Be careful!”. But Becky didn’t care, because her digging tools would be great self-defending weapons. Becky had been digging around for fossils since she could say a sentence! From sandboxes to beaches, Becky never stopped looking. She was determined to become the world’s youngest fossil discoverer! But today felt lucky. Either that, she was just being optimistic. But little did she know what was waiting to be unearthed...

Becky has found countless rocks and brought them to her father’s laboratory to study them and each time, they were genuine and priceless! But she wanted more, as ancient as dinosaurs! And so she dug up more fossils. But none, not even one, came from a dinosaur. They were always from snail-shaped shells or things like that. So off she went!

Becky pulled out her phone and opened her own fossil-finding app. “The app says that there’s a really big one around.” She wondered, *What in the world could it be?* As she walked closer, she pulled out her portable shovel and started digging. After fifteen minutes of pure toughness, she finally dug the mysterious fossil up to the surface. “Phew!” Becky sighed, wiping the sweat off her forehead. “That was rough!” Upon closer inspection, Becky saw that this was no ordinary fossil. “Wow! Maybe I should take it to dad’s lab!”

“My goodness, Becky, this is the skull of the rare dinosaur species *Berthasaura Leopoldinae*!” Her father said, mesmerized. Becky thought, *Finally! I’ve found something good!* She was so joyful that she bounced up and down! But Becky was in for a little surprise...

When Becky’s father came home from the lab, he looked grim. “Dad, what’s wrong?” Becky asked. “It appears, after a few tests, the *Berthasaura* bone still has a little bit of flesh on it. That means it has to be recent; and if dinosaurs were to rise again, then surely all humankind would die!” Her father replied, as Becky stared back, horrified. *What did I just do? Did I cause the death of all humans? No, that bone was a warning for humans to stay alert for whenever dinosaurs will strike.* “Sweetie, you’re spacing out. Are you okay?” Her mother asked. “I—I need to go to my room...” Becky answered wearily.

The next day, Becky found her father sitting at the edge of her bed. “Sweetie, it seems there was a mistake. That *Berthasaura* bone’s flesh was dried up but the entire lab was just excited to have a rare fossil, they didn’t look close enough, so they thought dinosaurs would make a comeback. But at midnight, the lab found out that all the flesh on the bone was dried up. Becky was overjoyed to hear that the world is NOT going to end.

The following day, her father came home from the lab dumbstruck. “The specimen— it’s been stolen! It turns out to be very valuable, you know, with the whole rarest species thing.” Becky thought, *Huh? Why is it such a big deal? It’s just a dinosaur skull.* So before her bedtime, she researched on who is after a *Berthasaura* bone. There are fossil hunters, other labs, but one name caught her eye. **SpecialSpecimens**. That was her father’s lab, **FossilLabs.Co.**’s rival lab! Becky wondered if they stole it. Rumor has it they hired a professional thief to steal museum artifacts! They’ve been in court for that, but they got out innocent. *They might still be operating bad missions, like stealing our Berthasaura skull?* Becky ranted inside her head. As she thought more about it, she became more and more angry.

The next day was just an ordinary day for Becky’s father; but it wasn’t for Becky. “Dad, I think that I know who stole the *Berthasaura* skull.” “Do you now?” Her father questioned absentmindedly. “I think it was



**SpecialSpecimens!**” Becky blurted out. Her father looked shocked. “I know that **SpecialSpecimens** is famous for being mysterious, but I don’t think they would stoop that low. And if they did, that would be unbelievable!” Long story short, Becky’s father didn’t believe her. But Becky swore to find out who took the skull. Becky figured that she would have to hack into the CCTVs. And fortunately, she knew a person who could do it. Code name: Vortex. Name: Vanessa. Vanessa only hacks bad people and gives the police a tip. (Her father is a police officer) “Why should I do it?” Was Vanessa’s first reaction. “The stake of the.. Well, now that I think about it, nothing is at stake right now, but it’s a theft!” Becky cried. “Wait, already ahead of you.” Vanessa held up a hand. “While you were going on about that, I hacked into the firewall. Your dad’s lab has a sloppy firewall for a high tech lab. Look! I found the tape!” As Becky leaned over to Vanessa’s laptop, what she saw made her heart drop.

Clara Lee was an ordinary scientist. She was doubted by other scientists, especially the females who were exceptionally smart. But her real job was a worker for **SpecialSpecimens**. She was like a double agent, but a scientist. Her mission was to become the best friend of the father of the child that found the rare fossil, then ask all the scientists to go to the bar on the night of the heist while another double scientist took it from the ventilation vent. But today, someone hacked the intensely coded firewall. “Impossible! No one can hack that!” She shouted. But they did, and so now the person that hacked it knows that Clara let the double scientist come in and steal it. Clara is doomed.

*1 month later...*

“**SpecialSpecimens**, you are being charged with theft, How do you plead?” The judge asked. But Becky wasn’t listening. She had solved the crime, and she felt good about it. She also felt good about finding the fossil. She finally had more.

# The Dinosaurs Trip

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Leung, Ethan – 10*

Once upon a time, there was a large group of different dinosaurs that came from China. They always loved to go to different landmarks, like the Great Wall of China, and eat good food, like dumplings, but also these dinosaurs were very different from other dinosaurs. These dinosaurs loved to learn about history.

One day they were reading about where to go, and they found a new place in China called Hong Kong. But this city was very far from the north part of China, which was where they were now. If they wanted to go there, it would take them a week; also, they had to find places to sleep and have food to eat, so they set off and headed south. In the middle, they faced many challenges, like spiders and bees, but also cute animals like pandas.

In the middle of their journey, they passed many different cities with different special cultures, like hot pot, bamboo, and sports like ping pong, badminton, and football. After a long three days of travelling, they finally reached the halfway point of their trip.

It was called Shanghai. They stopped in Shanghai a while to visit the famous landmarks like the Shanghai Television Tower and the Yangtze River. After a long day of visiting the statue again, this time they arrived in a different city, and it was called Xiamen. In Xiamen, it was the capital city of Fujian. China in Xiamen was very famous for their temples, like the South Putuo Temple and the Nanputuo Temple. Also, Fujian is famous for their oil noodles and their fried biscuits with vegetables and meat in them. In the famous city, there are a total population of 41.5 million people.

After a long rest at Fujian, they finally set off to Hong Kong, where the place they wanted to go for a week and lots of days. After a long time the family finally arrived in Hong Kong near the east. Nobody knew where they were, so they just kept going west interesting the opposite direction and soon arrived near the center of the city. Central was the center of Hong Kong it was the crowded area in Hong Kong and which where most people live in central there are lots of different landmarks like Hollywood road and Lan Kwai fong also you can eat dimsum in there as it has lots of tea houses where old people always go to for a talk and some time for them to share things with there friends after they ate their lunch they went to the ferris wheel where they took a ride on the ferris wheel and saw amazing views from the top after the ride the wanted to explore and go hiking so they went the peak were there is a tram that you can take to the top of the mountain also there is a big mall were you can eat shop and play so the dinosaurs splendid the day having fun in the peak.

The next day the dinosaurs woke up brushed there teeth and went down to the buffet for breakfast they saw a lot of unusual foods like eggs bread and orange juice that the never had before so they were interested and decided to try them at the end of the breakfast session the dinosaurs came out with they're tummy's full and refreshed so they decided to go to ocean park were they could see different animals like pandas tigers and monkeys also take on fun roller coasters and fun games like bottle cap toss and throw the ball into the bucket so they took the mtr and got there at no time soon they were in the line for the tickets once they got the tickets they ran to the entrance and entered the park they were welcomed by some old style hong kong stuff like the ding ding tram theaters and dim sum shops with crappy paint on them next they decided to play some games so they bought some tickets and started throwing balls and rings everywhere at the end when the had no chances left the won some super big stuffed animals and some minecraft swords with them soon they were at the end of the park the dinosaurs asked is that it the people replied no soon they figured out that there was still a section on the tall mountain above that they will need to take cable car to reach's so they went on a cable car and soon set of above the mountain were there more games to play soon they reached the most beautiful spot of the ride they could see everywhere even there hotel in central there was

forest and. Rocks that were everywhere but sadly they reached the end of the ride where they could no longer stay on the cable car so they got off on a platform and headed for a ride on a water roller coaster when they reached there they found that there was a big line for the ride so they splitted into groups some groups went to buy food for the family some went for a less busy ride and some went to get life jackets for the water roller coaster that they will be going on later so they waited and awaited and it finally came to there turn they boarded the half boat half roller coaster and shot off the whole ride was very calm and peaceful until the very end where there was a super steep slope and they were soon screaming and getting splashed by water all over there body when the got of the ride the were all wet and soaked so they decided to eat lunch they walked over to the jellyfish aquarium restaurant and they ate a cheeseburger ice cream set which was very yunny and sweet for the afternoon they went to visit the pandas the dolphins the gorillas and lots more after the visiting the sun began to set the dinosaurs set of and see good bye to Hong Kong and set of for home

# The Alternative Path of Life

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Leung, Nicholas – 10*

The rain poured relentlessly from the clouds. A green star lit up the horizon in an odd way that caught Tim's attention. Adjusting his glasses in disbelief, he watched as the star vanished swiftly as it appeared, leaving only a faint green streak slicing the sky in two. Tim's mom's shrill voice pierced the air, reminding him of his history exam. Interrupted from his thoughts, he returned to his study. But his concentration was shattered once again by an unexpected disturbance in the forest.

Peering out the window, Tim's eyes widened at the sight of terrified pandas fleeing from an unseen predator. He pondered the mysterious occurrence. Unable to resist his curiosity, he plunged into the woods. Ignoring his mother's complaints, he disappeared into the darkness.

Soon, he was enveloped by an eerie scent of ashes as an unsettling silence descended around him. His steps echoed through the forest until a chilling crunch beneath his feet halted his advance. Picking up a small white stick adorned with grotesque bite marks, Tim recoiled in horror as he realised what it was—a bone, triggering a wave of disgust. As he dropped it with a clatter, a sudden movement caught his eye—a shadowy figure. Terrified, Tim scrambled up the nearest tree, the shadowy figure spotted him. It then turned its head and slowly stepped towards him, growling with excitement. Tim squeezed his eyes shut, preparing for the worst. As luck would have it, a clumsy panda shuffled in the distance, catching the scent of the new distraction, the shadow shifted its attention and dashed away.

Slowly opening his eyes, Tim took a deep breath. In the distance, he spotted a few pangolin-like creatures munching plants. He recognised these creatures from textbooks, Pinacosaurus, herbivores. Descending from the trunk in disbelief, he tried not to alert them, but nevertheless, they heard the rustle and caught sight of him, but returned to eating. Phew, just when Tim was relieved. “Who are you?”, a young pinacosaurus waddled towards him. Tim’s jaw dropped, “Um, T-Tim.” he stammered. Talking dinosaurs? Un-extincting? His brain was exploding. The Pinacosaurus uttered, “I’ve never seen creatures like you on our planet.” Tim raised an eyebrow, “What planet?” Before he could answer, Tim’s eyes widened, “You mean that one?” pointing to the faint green streak. The pinacosaurus nodded, Tim tilted his head thoughtfully. “Look at all your sharp teeth, are you gonna eat me?” The pinacosaurus asked nervously. Tim took a minute to process the question before bursting into laughter, “Eat you? I’m not a carnivore, I’m an omnivore and my teeth aren’t sharp. Unlike me, you’ve flat teeth which allow you to ingest rocks.” The pinacosaurus nodded, still eyeing Tim suspiciously.

Driven by curiosity, Tim expressed his desire to visit the dinosaur’s planet. The pinacosaurus agreed and led the way. As they trotted on, their surroundings grew increasingly unfamiliar. A strange, misty fog obscured his vision, luminous plants and fungi glowed all around him. The Pinacosaurus babbled “We are going to Gobi, the largest desert on our planet, it’s a paradise.” Soon, they reached a clearing where a portal stood.

Tim took a deep breath, readying himself for whatever laid ahead. With a nod to his newfound friend, they stepped forward into the portal. A tunnel unwinded beneath him, and within seconds, they crashlanded on a hard surface. Tim found himself in a world unlike any other. The sky was a swirl of colors, and the ground beneath his feet was a reddish hue. Tim squinted, he spotted a sign in the distance that read “WELCOME TO GOBI”, glancing towards his new dinosaur friend, they exchanged smiles, wondering what adventure loomed ahead...

Tim soon realised that he had never known true heat before. In the past few hours, he and the pinacosaurus were fueled by nothing but desperate hope for water. As they crawled on, hungry vultures circled them. Eventually, they stumble across what they thought was a mirage, yet an actual city, built around an oasis. The city was bustling with life, dinosaurs wandered through the streets, some were bargaining and some were shopping. The dinosaur species vastly varied, to the extent that the pinacosaurus itself, couldn't name a few. Tim was astonished by the striking similarity between this city and those on Earth. Tim spotted a small café with a sign that read "DinoBrew" in bold, rustic letters. The smell of roasting coffee beans wafted through the air, mingling with the chatter of the bustling city.

As he and the pinacosaurus made their way towards the café, they attracted curious glances from the locals. Tim didn't mind, he couldn't help but marvel at the city. There were protoceratops sipping on steaming cups of coffee, Microraptors haggling over the price of exotic fruits, and even a group of sinraptors browsing through jewelry at a nearby market stall. Finding a shaded table outside the café, Tim and the pinacosaurus settled down, grateful for a moment of respite from their exhausting journey. A friendly dinosaur approached them, his plates clinking as he set down menus in front of them.

"Welcome to DinoBrew! What can I get you today?" the dinosaur asked, his voice warm and inviting. Tim took a glance at the menu, filled with a variety of beverages and snacks. As he pondered his choices, he couldn't shake the feeling of awe at the sight before him—a thriving city in the midst of the desert, where dinosaurs lived harmoniously and lived lives much like humans on Earth. The pinacosaurus nudged Tim gently, urging him to explore the wonders that lay beyond. Tim made his order. He glanced around lost in thought, the coffee arrived.

Putting his thoughts aside, he took a sip of the rich, creamy coffee. The sun set over the oasis, casting a golden hue coating the vibrant city. Tim couldn't help but feel a sense of gratitude for his unexpected journey that led him to this miraculous planet where the ancient creatures thrived, the alternative path of evolution...

# The Hero of China Dinosaurs

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Li, Junyi – 10*

In a woodland, nowadays China, a little sinosauropteryx was walking to its shelter, called Adder. He was very thirsty but he couldn't find water. When he tried to drink from a pond, the other sinosauropteryx would push him into the pond and roar with laughter!

When he thought about this he squeaked with fury. “Why am I so small and lonely?” Suddenly he came up with a brilliant idea: he was going to find the golden bug! Even though it is the rarest creature in the forest, he was determined to find it, he was going to prove that he is worthy of being respected.

He ran across valleys with huge trees and grass as tall as giants. At the end of the valley was a field, suddenly he heard a noise, a very large noise. Another sinosauropteryx was behind him, and roared “why are you in my territory?”

Adder shivered like he was in Antarctica, and squeaked, “sorry I didn't know that this was your territory!...”

Well well the sinosauropteryx said with a calm voice but had a sense of oppression, “get out of my territory or I will RIP YOU INTO PIECES!”

Adder ran, as fast as he could. He soon got very tired, and decided to take a rest. Just as he was about to sit down, he heard a rustle coming from the trees. He shouted to the bush behind him, “who is there? But there was no reply.”

Just as he sat down again on his hind legs, the rustle sounded again. It was clear he thought no... a T-Rex! But the dinosaur in the bushes wasn't a T-Rex, nor another sinosauropteryx, it was a pterosaur! It laughed, “what a good lunch you'll make little sinosauropteryx, and charge right at adder!”

Adder dodged but the pterosaur's beak hit the side of his shoulder, and he squeaked with pain! He was petrified, he wanted to use his hind legs to dig a hole in the ground and hide in it. But he was not a coward, he was a hero adder!

He pushed his legs, trying to get a grip on the pterosaur, but the pterosaur swiped his leg away and dug its beak into Adder's back. Adder felt a huge rush of pain, suddenly he had a great idea. He ran, and the pterosaur followed. Adder slid onto a cliff edge but at the very last second, he turned and ran away. But the pterosaur was not so lucky, it went deep down, and landed with a “thump”. Adder was scared, would he meet another pterosaur? Or worse?

But from now on, he was the hero Adder! He ran to the temple, and stopped suddenly, in front of a temple three times bigger than a T-rex . Adder was amazed by the glittering jewels on the temple wall. He touched the jewels for a second but he realized his job was to find the golden bug, not the jewels.

He suddenly thought about the other sinosauropteryx's stories. First he thought of firings, telling the story of the temple. “Once a sinosauropteryx went into the temple but never came back, we didn't know what happened to him until another sinosauropteryx found its body all black on the ground.” Adder thought there must be a trap or how would the sinosauropteryx's body turn black? He held a stick in his leg and threw it onto the floor in front of him. Adder heard a buzzing sound and the stick turned into smoke.

He climbed up to the roof, trying hard not to fall down. When he was about to climb down, he heard a click, and another click, he was being picked up by a hand, so large that it covered his whole body. He twisted and turned but the hand kept a firm grip on him.

He saw a golden bug lying nearby on this huge hand, he picked it up and bit the side of that hand and it let go of them. He heard a rumble and a creak and everything was dark. Adder was thirsty and tired, he wished that he was home, sleeping on his moss bed and dreaming about his mother.

But yet he was in this dark room. He heard some shouting outside and some lava flowed into the dark room, he started to worry, will the lava kill him? He shouted for help, but the other sinosauropteryx were not going to save him. So he used all his might, trying to get out. When he finally got out he thought I am not a hero adder, I destroyed lives of other sinosauropteryx.

He saw a hole in the temple, and lava ran out like a stream of water. He ran to an icy pool of water and said, I will freeze into ice and save the sinosauropteryx left and be a hero.

He jumped into the icy pool of water, and fell into the lava. His body covered the hole immediately. Every dinosaur cheered for adder, he was the hero of all the dinosaurs, tiny to huge.

# A Beautiful Lie

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Tam, Avery – 9*

## Year 2050

“And this year’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry goes to.... Dr. Diane Loong! Dr. Loong has invented a method to extract DNA from dinosaur fossil eggs and successfully recreated life for a long extinct Psittacosaurus of the Cretaceous Period. Her great discovery would help to revive life for hundreds of extinct animals in the world!” announced the presenter loudly.

When Diane proudly stepped onto the stage, the presenter gratefully handed her the award and asked, “Dr. Loong, would you like to share with us the story behind this amazing achievement?”

Diane took a deep breath. Memories flooded her mind, taking her back twenty six years ago...

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## Year 2024

Sulking and pouting her lips, Diane whined to her mother, “I wish I could go to the science camp instead of staying here all summer.”

“Diane, Grandpa has just retired and he is extremely depressed and lonely. As a family, we should spend more time with him,” comforted Mom as she kissed her daughter’s forehead. Diane’s Grandpa was a famous palaeontologist in China who had spent his whole life studying dinosaur fossils.

“There is nothing to do here!” protested Diane. “His house does not even have WiFi or air-conditioning! Staying at Grandpa’s house is like being back in the Stone Age!”

As the car slowly came to a halt in front of a shabby old cottage, Diane reluctantly stepped out of the car. Her Grandpa was already waiting on the stone doorstep, waving enthusiastically. He was completely bald and wore a dirty laboratory coat and a pair of half-moon spectacles on his nose.

“My sweetheart!” exclaimed Grandpa. “You have grown so much since I last saw you! Come in, come in. Your room is upstairs. Feel free to explore around but just don’t go into my study room.”

Diane looked puzzled but Grandpa glanced away immediately and chuckled, “I have a lot of dinosaur fossil eggs which the museum has given me as a retirement gift. They are really precious so I don’t want anybody to touch them. I promise I will let you see it later. Now, let’s get you settled down first!”

Later that night, Diane could not sleep. She tried to doze off, but the heat made her bed unbearably uncomfortable. Tick tick tick. It was one o’clock in the night. She tossed and turned. The house was silent, as though the entire village had fallen under a spell.

Although the room was dark, Diane could see a silvery moonbeam slanting through the gap of the curtains. Suddenly, a shadow appeared on the wall. The shape of the shadow was like a monster with huge horns on its head and a spiky tail. “Am I dreaming?” whispered Diane to herself.



Like a detective, Diane curiously tiptoed down the corridor and followed the mysterious shadow. As she walked near the study room, she heard Grandpa talking to someone inside. Diane could not resist but slowly turned the doorknob. Diane gasped. In front of her was a dog-sized dinosaur circling Grandpa's legs! Diane instantly let out a shrill shriek which shocked both the little dinosaur and Grandpa.

Grandpa froze for a moment, then he introduced the dinosaur to Diane, "This is Naloong, a Psittacosaurus which I have revived its life by extracting the DNA from the fossil eggs. Come pet him. He is a herbivore and is very friendly!"

Diane stared at Naloong. The dinosaur was covered in yellow feathers with a parrot-like beak. It snuggled into Diane as if it had found its mother. Diane's heart melted as she gently stroked Naloong's feathery head.

Over the next few days, Diane spent hours in Grandpa's study, marvelling at his work. The lab was filled with bubbling glass tubes, glowing equipment and the walls were covered with hundreds of scientific equations that Grandpa had scribbled with chalk which Diane could hardly understand. Grandpa explained everything patiently to Diane and the two of them even started on new experiments together.

One night, as they worked busily together in the lab, Naloong spotted a yellow bird landing in the backyard and vanished into the darkness. He followed the bird and squeezed through a hole from the fence. When he scanned around searching for the bird, little did he know that there was a huge truck coming in his way.

**BANG! BOOM!**

Naloong exploded into pieces of metal and the truck sped away quickly. Diane and Grandpa heard the thunder crash and stared at each other in horror. They dashed outside and saw Naloong's metal pieces scattered everywhere. Grandpa picked up a piece of the lifeless metal and hugged it with a broken heart. In a second, he collapsed on the concrete road and fainted.

The next day, Grandpa woke up in the hospital with Diane and her mother beside his bed. Diane's mother held her father's hand and said, "Sorry. Papa, you seemed so depressed lately. One day, I saw you working diligently in your study room and your eyes sparkled with youth. I secretly bought this robot dinosaur for you and I hope to make your dreams come true."

"It's okay, Xiao Mei. I know this is a beautiful lie. Although my experiment has not succeeded, I will not give up. Besides, I have a little assistant this summer," Grandpa winked at Diane.

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**Year 2050**

With overwhelming emotions, Diane wiped away her tears and said, "I would like to dedicate this award to my beloved Grandpa, Mr. David Kong. He taught me that even a speck of dust has infinite possibilities. Life is precious and we should treasure all lives on Earth. Thank you!" Diane bowed deeply down and a continuous wave of applause filled the air.

# The Egg-citing Discovery

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Tan, Lola – 10*

On an ordinary day, the unexpected happened. That afternoon when Lola was walking home from school, yawning as she thought about all her homework, she followed the usual pathway but something strange caught her eye. There was a white object, shaped like an egg, rolling towards her. It was enormous compared to the bush nearby.

Curiously, she inspected it. “I must find out what this is,” she thought to herself.

She remembered the news she’d heard about fossils found in China, making her wonder if she’d made a similar discovery. So Lola carefully picked up the egg and continued to go home. Suddenly out of nowhere, Isabelle, Sophie and Anna, the naughty kids at school, suspiciously noticed Lola carrying the egg.

“Let’s snatch that egg!” Isabelle snapped.

They acted fast. Sophie fetched a skipping rope from her backpack and threw one end of the handle to Anna. They both grabbed onto the rope from each end and lowered it down to trip Lola.

“Yikes!” Lola slipped on the rope and dropped the egg. Isabelle quickly grabbed the egg before it fell to the ground. Sophie and Anna clapped and cheered for Isabelle.

Lola was left in shock. She tried to get back the egg but the three of them ganged up on her. After a few failed attempts, Lola rushed home.

She plopped down her belongings on the floor and quickly went to her room while thinking of a way to get the egg back. “Ding!” She had an idea. She would make a fake egg to trick Isabelle for an exchange! Since she knows Isabelle is greedy, “let’s make two eggs!” She thought to herself.

Lola ran around the house to grab some craft materials, then began crafting in her room. She looked up images of dinosaur eggs that’s been dug up in China, like the 66-million-year-old toothless dinosaur called Baby Yingliang. She furiously worked and two eggs were finished.

Lola then decided to text Isabelle, “Bring the egg tomorrow. I have a great offer.”

Isabelle replied, “Sure, it better be good.”

The next day, Lola walked to school, holding the two realistic crafted eggs. Isabelle walked up proudly towards her and asked, “So, what have you got here?”

“Here’s my offer,” Lola shyly greeted her.

Lola held out the two eggs, they looked even more appealing to Isabelle than the real one. Isabelle looked unsure at first and hesitated for a moment, but Sophie said, “Deal! Do it, Isabelle, two for one is a good deal.”

“Fine, just this time,” Isabelle rolled her eyes, passing the original egg back to Lola.

“Great, thanks!” Lola felt relieved. As they all walked off trophying their eggs, Isabelle, Sophie and Anna realised that their eggs were fake.

“Umm, sorry, but your eggs were crafted. They might look real, but they’re not,” Lola confessed. “It was mine in the first place and if you promise not to snatch it again, I will hatch the egg with you guys together,” She offered.

“Really? You would do that?” Isabelle looked surprised.

From that minute onwards, the four girls were hanging out with each other and even forgiving all the times that Isabelle was mean in the past.

After school, Lola invited Isabelle, Sophie and Anna to her house. They wanted to learn about the egg, and Lola gave them a warm welcome while ushering them inside, “Hey guys, have a cookie or two and come into my room.”

So the four of them sat down on the floor with their laptops while the scent of freshly baked cookies filled the air of the room. Lola started typing, “How to hatch a dinosaur egg”. She researched some useful information about broken fossils and unearthed eggs but there was no clear information on how to hatch a dinosaur egg. So the girls thought that the nearest answer to their problem is to find out how to hatch an ordinary egg.

“To hatch an egg, you need to place the egg in a cardboard box and wrap it in blankets to keep it warm. Get a desk lamp with a 40-watt light-bulb, keep it under at all times, in 12 to 16 hours a new friend is on its way.” Lola’s mind exploded. There was so much information, but she was determined to hatch the egg and find out what kind of dinosaur was inside.

The girls scattered around the house to grab the items. “Isabelle, you take the blanket. Sophie and Anna, go grab a desk lamp,” Lola instructed.

Once the setup was done, they sat around it and had all fallen asleep, many hours had passed but suddenly they woke up from the sound of a crack! They spotted a fuzzy head peeking out of the egg shell. As the rest of the shell cracked, they saw its long neck, bird-like feet, and feathers all over its body. Lola hurried to find out which dinosaur it was online. It seemed to be a Beipiaosaurus.

“What should we do now?” Lola wondered. “It says that it can grow longer than two meters!”

“Why not take it to a dinosaur museum?” Sophie suggested.

Searching for a suitable museum, Lola found the Zigong Dinosaur Museum. The next day, the girls brought the dinosaur there after school. They met a paleontologist who was overloaded with shock that they had a living baby dinosaur!

“Can it stay here?” Lola asked, worried that her request would be declined.

“Of course, we will give it a home and take care of it,” he replied. “You can come visit it whenever you want.” At last, Lola and her friends were happy that the dinosaur would be safe here with experts who knew how to care for it properly. From that day on, the girls would make sure to visit the dinosaur every day after school.

Lola even suggested naming the dinosaur, “How about LISA like the first letter of our names?”

Anna agreed, “Look, I think Lisa likes the name!”

# A Rainy Day's Work in China

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Tian, Kristine – 9*

Once upon a time there was a paleontologist called Jonathan Chen and one morning he had nothing to do, so he decided he would go somewhere new where nobody found a fossil before to dig for dinosaur fossils. So, he decided to go to a deserted beach, somewhere nobody ever goes to dig. But he only had a week free to go and explore and the weather report said that the whole entire week was going to rain! “Oh no,” Jonathan groaned, already imagining all the things that could happen on the cold, rainy beach. Looking outside his window, the clouds had already started to turn greyer and the sky looked threateningly dark. “I guess there’s no other choice,” Jonathan groaned, “There won’t be another chance. I guess I’ll just have to go out in this weather...” So, he put on his raincoat and rainboots, grabbed his umbrella and fossil tool bag and then he was off. When he got to the beach, he walked around and chose a likely spot where there would be dinosaur fossils — right underneath a cliff. He took out a shovel and started digging. But suddenly, raindrops started to rain from the sky. As the rain fell quicker and quicker, then got harder and harder, the rain began to slowly cover up the hole he had just dug. “Oh why does this have to happen just right now?” Jonathan sighed and tried to dig while holding his umbrella over that spot. It would have been so much easier to do this. If only the weather wasn’t so bad... He struggled to shovel with one hand and hold an umbrella with the other. It was very hard. And then, suddenly he had a good plan. He quickly took out his phone and called his friend Wesley to come and help him. Wesley agreed, saying it was a good idea that he helped as well, because in the hard weather, he would have a hard time digging on the beach alone. Soon, Jonathan saw a familiar blue car drive towards the direction of the nearby carpark, and a minute later Tommy walked over, holding an umbrella and with a small sack full of umbrellas tied to his waist. “Well, I just thought just in case we needed more, I would bring some more umbrellas,” Wesley responded to Jonathan’s surprised, relieved and confused look. “Well, what are you waiting for? Come on, are we going to dig or not? Let’s get to work!” Wesley exclaimed, taking Jonathan’s umbrella and holding it over the hole. Jonathan began to dig, quickly but carefully, and gradually Tommy had to hold more umbrellas over the hole, because it was so big. Soon he had dug a very, very big and deep well shaped hole in the ground without it caving in. The hole was so very very deep that both Wesley and Jonathan’s full bodies could fit in there. Jonathan dug away a last bit of the sand and saw... A small spot of yellowish, old looking bone! “Oh my gosh! Already!? Yes!!” Jonathan and Wesley worked quicker and quicker, trying to make the hole as big and as deep as possible. They worked together for hours and hours, but at the end of the day, they had to stop. “Don’t worry,” Wesley said with a smile. “Can you camp?” Jonathan looked confused. “Yes?” “Let’s do it!” But, there was still a big problem. If there wasn’t anyone holding umbrellas over the hole then it would cave in! Yi Chen groaned, then the two started to think. Ten minutes later, they still didn’t have a solution. Jonathan groaned and muttered: “I can’t think of anything except waterproof paper!” Wesley heard him and happily exclaimed: “Oh, that is exactly what we will do!” Jonathan looked bewildered, and Wesley started giving orders. “So, you hold the umbrellas over the hole. I’ll be back soon!” Jonathan did what he was told, holding the umbrellas over the hole. Wesley took out another umbrella, and walked away to the carpark. When Jonathan saw Wesley’s car driving towards him, there was another person inside it, and soon Wesley and Tom, each holding umbrellas and with large, bulging sacks tied around their waists, were running towards Jonathan, shouting “Hi!” Then suddenly, Jonathan realised that they were also carrying backpacks! Wesley set down his bag and started pulling big, fat, heavy, and long wooden sticks out and started planting them firmly in the ground. Jonathan watched in amazement as a miracle seemed to happen.. Wesley and Tom worked quickly and it was soon complete. It was truly a miracle, even better than he had imagined, because there were actually sides to keep out wind, and a door for him to enter! That meant he wouldn’t have to hold an umbrella anymore! Jonathan cried “Thank you —” But Tommy said: “Don’t thank us!” Then, they went to bed. The next day, Jonathan woke up and realized that he was alone. He found a parcel with a note that read: *Don’t worry. We went shopping. We’ll be back soon. Use this dental set.* — Tommy. After Jonathan finished reading, he started

to brush his teeth. He was hungry and thirsty. He realised he hadn't eaten yesterday! Then, Tommy and Tom showed up and gave bread and water to everybody. When they finished, they decided to continue on the project before it rained. Jonathan started digging, and Tommy and Tom stabilised the scaffolding more. By the time it started raining, Jonathan had revealed — a tiny dinosaur fossil that seemed to have fur!? Jonathan was really happy! Now all he had to do was call his colleagues, to come do their part. He turned to Wesley and Tom and said: “Thank you all for coming to help me, you can all go home now. Thanks so much!” Then, Jonathan called his colleagues, called a taxi, and went to bed happy that he had accomplished his task.

# The Keepers of the Chinese Dinosaurs

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Tse, Sofia – 10*

“Hello everybody, today we have a new student,YikLong”,Mr Ho said with a smile.

The students sniggered and some even burst into laughter .It was the same story every time YikLong said his name.

YikLong hated his name ,everyone knew it meant dinosaur. He hated his grandfather for giving it to him.

China’s national day was coming and YikLong was looking forward to staying home and playing on his computer ,but they had to go to father’s clan to do some “special rituals”.He loathed the idea.

The village was brightly decorated in red flags,which caught YikLong’s eyes.The villagers came out to greet him.The elders told him that he was ready .”Ready for what?”YikLong thought.

Grandpa appeared with his gnarled stick ,”Follow me ”he whispered into YikLong’s ears. YikLong rolled his eyes.

YikLong was shocked by the beautiful view. There was a large sinkhole at the bottom and he was excited to know what was inside. Grandfather and YikLong sat on a sturdy rock covered in moss . Grandfather slowly reached into his pocket and took out an odd-looking ring with a shiny crystal on top. He placed it on YikLong’s hand and said ,”You will understand the...”

YikLong felt anxious,he found himself alone inside the sinkhole he had just seen. The trees blocked the sunlight ; it was dim even though it was still afternoon . He curiously peered at a long beak . Suddenly ,it started moving. YikLong shivered as he slowly approached.

“Hi,I’m Sinovenator ,”it said, staring at YikLong with cold eyes.”Follow me,”He didn’t want to get eaten, so he followed.

Sinovenator was a skinny dinosaur covered in feathers.It had a long beak and a pair of wings that made it look more like a chicken than a dinosaur. Other dinosaurs gathered looking at YikLong with creepy eyes. YikLong noticed a dinosaur standing on a huge rock with its head held high.

”You must be YikLong. I’m Sinosauropteryx; your grandfather told me about you,” it said in a squeaky voice. Sinosauropteryx was a smart dinosaur with beautiful orange , white feathers and sharp claws, it was only about a metre tall. It also had a beak-like mouth. ”Your family has protected us for generations. We’re at war with other provinces. We need your help.” It handed YikLong a dusty old book written in grandfather’s handwriting. “Each region has its own keeper. You’re our keeper. We need your help to end this war.”

YikLong was studying the book from grandpa and figured out a plan .He took out his rock climbing materials from his backpack and started climbing up. When he reached 3 meters, he got tired. He wasn’t good at sport . Sinovenator told YikLong to fly on his back.

As they came to the top of the steep hill, YikLong was not prepared for what greeted him. Blood scattered all over the place and half broken bones covered the ground

Then YikLong saw a dinosaur that a flag with Sichuan on it."Uh oh,"he thought assessing the situation.the dinosaurs charged at the other bunch of dinosaurs."Stop!We want your alliance,"came a reply .YikLong peered at the towering dinosaurs and saw a small figure.It was a girl."I'm YinLong from Sichuan .We're not here to fight. Dinosaurs paused for Yi Long's command. He nodded and asked ,"Do you have a ring?" YinLong showed him the ring.

Sinosauropteryx cried out in a screechy voice ,"Scout the area! Dinosaurs ran all over Liaoning searching for any danger ."Aren't there 16 keepers not 3?"YikLong asked curiously with a raised eyebrow. YinLong replied sadly ,"Well ,the keeper of Gansu captured the other keepers .Those keepers were imprisoned and then he stole their rings.

The keeper of Gansu came, he led some old fashion looking dinosaurs that looked weird ."I'll rule over the world!Remember my name ,GuanLong,"he said with a wicked grin. He was a skinny man who's wearing oversized coat. He had a ring on each finger except for his thumb and pinkie which had two rings on each."I came here to take those rings to unlock their secret,"He grinned showing his crooked teeth."Don't ,"YikLong urged.

Giving the ring could either result in being good or bad.YinLong had a tried to hide the smile on her face. Suddenly she ran to YikLong and grabbed YikLong's ring.There were butterfly's in his tummy as YinLong sprang towards GuanLong ."Oh! I forgot to tell you that this's my cousin,"YinLong said menacingly GuanLong walked south back to the direction he came from and called out,"Take me to Hinan now,"

YikLong exchanged looks with Sinovenator and jumped on his back. Sinovenator soared through, "I'm tired ,I can't go on,"Sinovenator said in deep voice.YikLong signed. He was left under the mountain, he had to catch up. "Put me on the middle one,"Guan Long ordered. As GuanLong went pass YikLong, Yik Long grabbed onto GuanLong's dinosaur that he was sitting on which was called a GuanLong . GuanLong was a fast dinosaur that looked like a raptor. The GunLong tried to shake him off but couldn't, as they reached the top, GuanLong placed the rings on a spiral shape, there were sixteen rings in total .

The ground started shaking and in the sky there was a rock, it was a meteorite.GuanLong was gone and there was a portal on the spiral. "YikLong you must take this book and go home now, " Sinosauropteryx said. It's ok, we'll be able to run away,"

YikLong jumped through the portal...

A moment later, he was in his bedroom with an old leather book on the floor. YikLong went to school , but Mr. Ho announced," We have a new student, YinLong,"he said with a smile. Shook ran through YikLong's body. There where lot's more to discover he was feeling grateful for his ancestors who he was proud to be the clan of LiaoLing' dinosaurs keepers.

# A Selfless Sauropod in the Hidden World

Victoria Shanghai Academy, Van Hoof, Chloe – 10

The scorching sun blazed against the rocky cliffs, as Jasmine let out an exasperated sigh. After yet another day of gruelling work, trekking for hours in Tuen Mun Grand Canyon looking for a fossil, nothing had come of it. Tears welled in her eyes as she recalled her parents, well-known palaeontologists, who disappeared in search of the presumably hidden dinosaur world, leaving her and her little brother Liam behind when she was only 12. She pulled out a photograph of her parents and whispered softly to them. “Mom! Dad! I know you’re out there somewhere. I haven’t found a single fossil, but I promise I won’t stop.” Her tears traced down her cheek.

Jasmine stumbled over a loose rock and she picked it up to take a look. “Interesting.” She muttered. Slowly and cautiously, she chipped off a piece of the rock, revealing a gleaming part underneath. Jasmine’s heart was racing. Could this be it? A fossil? Carefully, she chipped off another piece. Upon closer inspection, she realised there was a dead plant embedded in the rock. “*Cooksonia! Cooksonia is the first plant to develop vascular tissues! Hypothesised to go extinct due to changing climate and tide levels, it remains a mystery to the botanic world.*” Jasmine exclaimed. She continued searching around and she found many fragments and pieces of carbonised fossils. As she was studying the pieces, she realised that not only were there plants, there were also pieces of fossilized dinosaurs, pterosaurs, and other extinct species of the same era. She counted at least three sets of fossils with eight specimens each. “*Mom, Dad. I’ve found fossils! Now all I need is you. No matter what they say, I know you’re out there somewhere.*”

Just as Liam came to find Jasmine, suddenly the fossils around them rose up into the air, emitting a powerful golden glow. The raptor claw at the base of Jasmine’s neck floated, lifting the dumbfounded siblings into the air. The world around them started spinning in a blinding flash of light. Then... darkness.

Jasmine woke to sunlight glaring through the treetops of a lush green forest. Liam clutched onto her arm in fear. “W–W–Where are we?” He asked. Jasmine cautiously traipsed through the overgrown vegetation. As she brushed a wayward fern out of her view, she saw a majestic creature towering over her, its face sentient and peaceful. “*Mamenchisaurus Siconandurum!*” Jasmine whispered in disbelief. “*First found in Xinjiang, China, Mamenchisaurus stands at 15 to 35 metres, usually calm, however, can be a dangerous foe due to its immense size.*” All of a sudden, a deafening roar shook the trees and a giant figure loomed over Jasmine and Liam. “Don’t move a muscle!” Jasmine warned Liam. Her brother whimpered and as the Tyrannosaurus Rex inched closer, he tossed a pebble at it. The T–Rex roared in annoyance. “RUN!” Jasmine yelled. The pair dashed through the forest and the T–Rex lumbered after them. Then as they were finally gaining speed, they bumped straight into two large boulders. As the T–Rex stared down ready to take a bite, a flaming branch flew across and landed right in front of the T–Rex, capturing its attention. A hooded figure motioned from a crevice below them, urging the siblings to crawl in and they speedily followed.

“Who are you and how did you get here?” The hooded figure turned around and asked. “Mom?” They exclaimed in unison. “Jasmine! Liam! I– I– ” She cried out in disbelief. “David!” She called. David replied, “Mary? What’s wrong? Oh..... Liam! Jasmine!” Silence ensued for a moment as the family collided in a deep embrace, finally setting eyes on each other for the first time in eight years. “*I finally found you!*” Jasmine sobbed into her parents’ shoulders. “*I finally found you!*”

“Where are we and how are we going to get back?” Liam demanded. “We’re in what will later become China. As for how we’ll get back, well.....” Their father responded. “How did we even get here?” Jasmine wondered aloud.



“We came here by obtaining three different sets of fossils with eight specimens per set, activated with our love for palaeontology. The only way we can get back is if a dinosaur sacrifices for us in any way.” Mary replied. “We knew it was going to be risky, but we never imagined it would come to this.” As much as they wanted to, the family knew sitting around wasn’t going to do them any good, so grasping each other’s hands, they set off fearlessly in their quest to return to humanity.

ROAAARR! A deafening roar trembled the ground. The same Tyrannosaurus Rex as before stomped into view. The four explorers dashed away at a breathtaking speed. “Ouch!” Liam cried as he crouched on the ground, cradling his ankle. “Liam!” Mary shouted. The rest of the family immediately rushed back to help him, as the Tyrannosaurus Rex’s shadow loomed closer, its gaping jaws revealing rows of sharp teeth built to tear up flesh.

WHAM! The Mamenchisaurus slammed into the T-Rex, rearing up on its hind legs. The T-Rex whipped around and brought its powerful jaws down on the Mamenchisaurus. The two dinosaurs hassled and fought, tossed and twisted, each attack becoming weaker than the last. The Mamenchisaurus roared one last time, as if it was saying: *Don’t let my sacrifice be in vain. Save yourselves.* Jasmine blinked tears out of her eyes as the family was swept up by a golden mist, and darkness arrived as the blooming jungle was replaced by a barren canyon.

The skeletons of a malicious Tyrannosaurus Rex and a brave Mamenchisaurus lay tangled, fighting even after death. The family stood over them, silently mourning the death of their beloved friend. “What now?” Liam asked. “We make sure the Mamenchisaurus’s sacrifice doesn’t go in vain. We continue exploring the ancient world, uncovering hidden mysteries and secrets.” Jasmine replied. Together, the family of palaeontologists journeyed off into a vast world of adventures awaiting them.

# The Crazy Incident

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Tung, Damon – 10*

It's been a while since the whole friend group gathered together for a hike on such a beautiful day. It was February 29th 2024, which happens once every four years. Jeff, Damien, Bob and David shared a common passion towards exploring nature.

'Come on guys. Walk faster!' screamed Jeff from a distance.

'Can we take a break? We've been walking non-stop for 3 hours.' said Bob, sitting on a rock to catch his breath.

'No Bob, you keep taking breaks, it's slowing us down.' said Damien. They always joked about Bob being the most unathletic person in their group.

'Wait guys, what is that?' said David as he diverted the boys' gazes towards something funnel shaped which was moving towards them.

'That's a tornado, run!' Jeff yelled, urging the group to sprint to an abandoned house. Unfortunately, the boys underestimated the tornado's speed and got swept away into mid-air before they reached the abandoned house.

After a few minutes of flying which felt like an hour, they landed roughly on grass, disoriented, confused. They had no idea where they were until they saw a sign that said 'RESTRICTED AREA, NO ACCESS'.

As they explored around, they discovered four eggs standing in front of a cave, covered in soil, emitting smoke. They were in complete disbelief as they had never seen such gigantic eggs in their lives.

Out of curiosity, Jeff touched an egg. He felt a rush of heat from his stomach to his hands, then flames burst from his palm. Damien touched another egg, and water released from his palm. One after another, they all laid their hands on an egg. To their amazement, magically, they acquired elemental powers. David gained earth powers to control rocks while Bob could control the movement of air. What surprised the boys the most? They could all speak dinosaur language now!

Bob couldn't control his air powers smoothly, and created a gust of wind that sent them to a rock, which turned out to be the portal.

They fell with a loud sound to the ground. Before they even stood up, all of them noticed glowing eyes from the cave, staring at them. They screamed and hid behind a rock. 'Don't be scared of me! I'm Nicky, the nicest one out here, part of a species called Chen Pao!' explained a voice.

The boys looked at Nicky in shock. A dinosaur is talking to them! Damien asked, 'Chen Pao? What kind of name is that?'

'How dare you! Each of us has a unique superpower that other dinosaurs were dying to have?'

The boys were speechless and Nicky continued, 'Our species are greatly endangered. We became easy prey to other dinosaurs due to our kind nature. El Corzan, my old friend, betrayed us. He killed some of our family as he possessed a wide range of strong powers. We've tried numerous ways to stop him but he saw right through our plans every single time. He comes every four years to on this day and eats a few of us. This year, it surprised me that you found the eggs before he did!'

'I think I heard my name.' a deep voice echoed from the cave, sending shivers down the boys' spine. Suddenly, an evil-looking creature slowly walked out of the cave. The boys hid behind Nicky promptly. 'Don't make me the

villain of the story, Nicky. My parents were killed by Chen Paos I trusted. Don't you think they owe me an apology?' El Corzan's face was twisted with anger and he continued, 'I'm here to kill you today, and these little human guests as well. What a cherry on top for my dinner. Hahaha!'

Jeff yelled, "If you want to kill Nicky, try fighting us first.' El Corzan laughed, 'Stop being ridiculous. Why do you think you're strong enough to defeat me? You don't even have powers like I do—'

Before El Corzan finished his sentence, Jeff created a fire ring surrounding him, where the flames slowly approached El Corzan's body. The flames stopped as it approached El Corzan's body. Jeff shouted to the boys, 'Come on guys, I need your help! Nicky, hide!'

Damien created sharp ice cones, attempting to make El Corzan lose his balance. However, a barrier formed between the ice cones and El Corzan's body, causing no effect. David gathered gigantic rocks to throw at El Corzan to distract his vision. El Corzan reversed the direction of the rocks right back at the boys, causing them to fall on their feet.

Little did El Corzan know, Bob was behind El Corzan the entire time. He was hiding in the cave undetected and made a tornado by moving his hand in circular motions quietly. The gust of wind slowly transformed into a tornado. Bob struggled with his balance as he held the tornado above his head with his hands.

El Corzan was laughing as the boys struggled to stand. He said, 'Time to feast! Hahaha!'

'Not on my watch!' Bob yelled, using the last bit of energy left in his body, and charged at El Corzan with the tornado. El Corzan lost his balance and fell down the cliff, roaring in misery.

After the roaring sounds disappeared, the boys heard cheering noises from the surroundings. Many Chen Pao dinosaurs appeared behind caves and bushes. Nicky also came out of his hiding spot and said, 'You are our saviours. Thank you for saving us.' He continued, 'Your powers will stay with you guys forever. We hope you'll remember this place!' Jeff said, 'We'll be back for sure!'

After heartfelt goodbyes to the dinosaurs, Bob created an air bubble surrounding the boys, and slowly floated them back to the entrance. After their fabulous journey at the unrestricted area, the exhausted boys went home. Since then, every four years on February 29th, they'll go on a hike at the same mountain, just to get blown away by the tornado that brings them to the alternate universe of dinosaurs.

# The Seven Fossil Wonders

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Wu, Yiyun – 9*

A long time ago, when dinosaurs roamed the earth, there was a legendary dinosaur that could solve every problem. One gloomy night, she gave birth to seven cute dinosaurs, and when they were six months old, she stuck a ruby on their foreheads. But on a stormy day, her babies were swept away by the roaring sea, stuck in the darkness, forever and ever. People said if you found the so-called Seven Fossil Wonders, you could rule all living things. Lots of people had tried but failed.

Years passed, there was an emperor that ruled China with his four loyal guards, Wu Yixin, Chan Kexin, plus twins Alishia and Jake Chapman. Wu was tall and wore long black hair in a neat bun. Chan was short with raven black hair at shoulder length. Alishia and Jake were identical twins, both with brownish-blond wavy hair.

One day, as the guards were on patrol, they spotted Austin Zelnats in an alleyway. Austin was just released from prison after a nine-year jail sentence. He hardly talked and was mostly grumpy. But now, he was chatting excitedly on the phone. The guards crept over and recorded his conversation:

Austin: "Where should we find them?"

Unknown: "Maybe Scarborough Reef? It was part of the mystery ocean!"

Austin: "So you think the fossils could be there? I—"

The guards turned to look at each other and cried out: "He's trying to find the Seven Fossil Wonders!" Jake said: "We must find the fossils before he does!" "But how and where can we find it?" Alishia replied, annoyed. "We should search Scarborough Reef, since they mentioned it." Chan said thoughtfully. "Yeah, but how can we know they were right?" Alishia doubted. Wu interrupted her: "We don't."

Scarborough Reef was a horrible place, pieces of driftwood scattered around the damp sand. Wu was the first to step off the boat, they peeled off their socks and shoes together, hauling duffel bags towards a small hut.

It was evening when they entered the hut, a little eleven year old girl skipped out from behind. "Hi everyone!" The guards gaped at the girl, until Wu asked sternly "Lilianna Zelnats, what are you doing here?" "I heard, so I came!" Lilianna babbled. "Do you have any idea how dangerous this is?" Alishia cried. "Yeah, for once I agree with her." Jake added. "Well, I suppose you can stay with us until tomorrow." Wu ordered.

The next morning, everybody was woken up by Lilianna's screaming. "I can't believe you found a fossil!" Alishia cried between breaths. The fossil was the size of a man's fist with tiny claws and a ruby. "Wait," Chan said, "If one fossil is here, the others could be too!" Everyone eagerly looked for the fossils, but with no luck. They decided Lilianna had to go home before dark. So Lilianna, Jake and Chan hopped on a canoe, head back to the mainland.

On the canoe, Jake asked "You want to stay with us?" "Uh huh?" Lilianna murmured, "If you find another fossil, you won't be so lucky though." Jake chuckled.

"Look! We're approaching Dino Gulf!" Chan shouted, "We can take a rest here! There's a rock that looks like a dinosaur!" After docking the canoe, they asked a villager where the so-called Dino Rock was. Following his instructions, they finally got to the rock. Lilianna curiously knocked on it, and suddenly, the rock shattered,

revealing...a fossil with a ruby! “YAY” Lilianna screamed, “I can’t believe I found another one!” Jake stood there in shock, “I guess we’re going back.”

When they arrived at Scarborough Reef, Wu and Alishia were waiting for them disappointedly, but the news of the second fossil cheered them up.

At midnight, Chan was awoken by a dream. She wrapped herself in coats, walked to the coast where the water rolled in. She sat on some driftwood, putting hands in the water, feeling the soft sand while her hand brushed against something sharp. Chan removed it and found a fossil that had two dinosaurs on it, their claws were clasped together, each clutching a ruby.

In the morning, Chan announced “Four down three to go!” Liliana pranced around the room. Wu said “Let’s go for more fossils!” When they stepped out of the door, they saw a ship pulling into the dock with a man on it.

As the ship drew closer, Liliana recognized the man as her dad Austin Zelnats. Wu strutted towards the dock, greeting the boat. “Hello” she said coldly, “What are you doing here?” “None of your business!” Austin snapped. “Probably looking for the seven fossils, good luck, we already have four!” Chan added. “ NOOOOO!” Austin bellowed. Liliana walked towards her Dad, “Why do you even want the fossils?” She asked. Austin looked at her “I need money. You’re growing up and soon going to secondary. I thought if I could find the fossils, I would sell them for money.” “Dad, you don’t have to do that, I’m earning my own money.” Lilianna cried. Austin handed three fossils to Liliana and said: “Be careful and make me proud.”

They quickly assembled the fossils together. A red glow was casted from the rubies. The guards and Liliana were instantly dragged into a swirl of colour.

WOOSH! They fell on a patch of grass. “Where are we?” Jake wondered. “I think we’re in the time of the dinosaurs.” Alisha replied. In the sky, colourful dinosaurs were flying happily, on the ground, dinosaurs were thumping around, shaking their tails. And a ruby was shining on top of a cave. They ran towards it and Jake raised Liliana into the air to drag it down. They all held on and were transported back.

“The dinosaurs seemed so free.” Lilliana murmured, “It just makes me feel like animals shouldn’t be controlled.” “Exactly, we should keep the rubies and fossils secretly instead of using them” Alisha exclaimed. Everyone put their hands in the middle saying “ FOR THE GOOD OF THE DINOSAURS!”

# Feathered Dinosaur King

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Wun, Lauren – 10*

I awoke with a splitting headache, pain spreading through my brain. My throat was abnormally dry. Attempting to quench my thirst, I reached for the nearest cup of water; it slipped away. I lay back down with an exasperated sigh. Chewing my cheek, I ransacked through my brain.

Just yesterday, our company discovered a new scientific discovery; a new dinosaur fossil detected in Liaoning province. As if this wasn't stressful enough, the company put my team to work on this. Today we had to name the dinosaur, tomorrow it would be presented to the exasperating media. I knew this wasn't positive, as the paparazzi would pounce on our company property within hours.

Soon, I realised something was wrong as the substance under my cheek wasn't particularly supple, and it wasn't until I had opened my eyes to the room that I realised that I fell asleep on the bathroom floor. Clenching my coat in one hand, I rushed out the door to catch a cab; 2012 was a flourishing year, didn't you know?

Soon, my workplace came into view as I hurriedly paid the driver and ran to the lift. As it reached my floor, my pace slowed as I approached the office. The lights shone in my eyes as I stepped on to the marble floored office, feet padding against the shivering cold floor as I took my seat. My tight suit squeezed together flesh, small creases where there was too much weight, suffocating myself. My hand tugged at the white collar to let loose the air, a cold shiver plundering down my shirt.

Almost instantaneously, other colleagues entered, like bees swarming into a honey-filled hive, including one of our well-esteemed guests, Paul Barret. I accompanied him to mainland China to research its bygone-aged dinosaurs, where we discovered the new dinosaur fossil in Liaoning. As the room became engulfed with people, a heavy voice spoke.

"Dear colleagues, interns, and our highly sophisticated guest, Paul Barret, welcome to our first meeting of 2012. It is such an honour to be hosting here, in China."

As the chatter and murmurs died down, Paul stood up in a refined way, politely introducing himself. His smooth, gelled-hair hobbled and slightly folded as he bowed, the office light hitting the tenuous wrinkles beneath his eyes. He then returned to his seat. The anonymous voice spoke again.

"However, we mustn't take this recent discovery as an upheaval. A myriad of suggestions for the name of the dinosaur fossil were rejected, simply because none of the names show any evidence that it symbolises this dinosaur." My eyes reached the speaker's golden pin on his blue tuxedo. Realising that the speaker was apparently the chairman of the company, my hands quickly fumbled over the folds on my shirt. He turned his gaze to me and my group.

"I believe you all were assigned the task of describing and naming the fossil, correct?" The chairman's voice sounded very heir-apparent, cocky almost. His accent was thick, as if saliva was choking him when he spoke. I mustered the courage to nod, and opened my mouth to speak.

"I have a... suggestion that... I would like to present." My voice stumbled over the vowels. The chairman nodded, and made a gesture for me to make my suggestion.

"So, um, as most of us know, the dinosaur is the largest dinosaur that most likely had feathers. The probability is to our... advantage."

“We could be sued for this *probability*.” A colleague mocked. The chairman dipped his head, encouraging me to continue.

“This dinosaur possessed a shallow crest along the top of its head, creating a crown. It had three fingers on each hand – their arms were stretched longer too.”

Paul ran a hand over his hair, smoothening it. “Why is this relevant?” He interjected. Ignoring the sudden impulse, I continued on.

“This means that it was frightening, like an upgraded version of the tyrannosaurs, which means that this dinosaur was an important figure in Jurassic world.” I stood up, eager to showcase my idea.

“Remember, you’re *just* an intern!” Another mock.

“I was thinking,” My heart plundered slowly, the heat rising to my chest. The room was no longer cold anymore – it seemed as if global warming had kicked in.

“What if we named the dinosaur,” Again, plunged into a hot–hell hole. The air danced around me, refusing to enter my nostrils. I took a trembling breath in, exhaled slowly, then opened my mouth.

“What if we named the dinosaur Yutyranus?” My hands opened, creating jazz–hands, a sheepish smile plastered across my face. The chairman leaned in.

“Yutyranus?”

“Yes,” I quickly explained. “The Chinese character ‘yu’ is for feathers, the Latin word ‘tyrannus’ symbolising king.” My hand trembled as I enunciated the words slowly. *Would they reject my suggestion?* My head shook with indecision.

“So, all in all, the name means feathered dinosaur king? As to symbolise its strength?”

“Yes.”

“Huh.” The chairman leaned back, his tense muscles shifting. “What is your name?”

“Xu Xing.” He relented, a small grin wiping across his face. Calling all the other higher–ranked colleagues and companions, they fell into a deep conversation, backs huddled against each other. After several minute’s time, they all dispersed into their respective positions. The chairman twisted his chair around, facing the front desk. Then, his eyes met mine. Another fleeing grin flashed across his lips.

“Well, I think the decision is decided.” He paused, suspension tugging at my clothes.

“Our first ever dinosaur fossil from China shall be named,” Another tug.

“Yutyranus huali!”

# My Biggest Dream Was Fulfilled

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Yip, Carissa – 9*

I never dreamed that I would find a magical thing that could change my life around.

Everything began in summer when I wanted to explore! But here was the problem ; I graduated top of my class but when I applied for a job they rejected me , I lost hope and just stayed at my parents house all day. Wandering around until I fell in love with exploring!

How did that happen? So... one day I was wandering around the house when I saw my younger brother Jack watching a Chinese explorer who found various of dinosaur fossils such as Mononykus or Tanius. After watching YouTube videos with him , this made me wanted to explore the world , but I didn't know how I was going to travel the world and fulfil my dream.

I needed to come up with a few plans : Plan 1 I was going to try to convince my parents to let me go to China to explore and ask them to pay for my flight.

Plan 2 : I was just going to tell my parents that I was going to military camp for adults , and tell them I would need to borrow money.

For the last plan , I would just try to make some money so I could pay for my own flight , but then something went horribly wrong again ... The problem was , I also needed money for food , drinks , transport and a hotel to stay in. After I that I froze in fear , because I realised that this expedition was going to cost a lot! I didn't know what else to do so , I bravely told my parents about my plan and it did not go as I expected , what actually happened is that they suspiciously agreed and said “ You need to make some money because we're not paying for you as you are already an adult , and it's time for you to be independent” I sighed and just went to my room an got prepared for my amazing trip. After I packed my bags , I went to bed excited for my trip , but then realised it was in 2 days , and sadly went to bed.

One morning when I woke up my parents were acting like they were fighting a bear , They kept shouting until I said “ Stop! You guys are already almost 50! Stop acting like your fighting over a teddy bear!” My mom replied “ Steven you and your brother don't understand! Now just go back to your room and change because we're going out to buy you clothes” I sighed and just walked to my room.

After I was done changing we went out I went to a very famous mall that almost everybody has been to. As soon as I stepped inside people started pushing each other which I hated , but this is life. Hours had past and I had finally finished buying some new clothes , so we went home and ate dinner then slept.

When I woke up the next morning I was so excited because that afternoon I was finally going to China! Even though I will miss my family , I'm pretty sure I will make some beautiful memories and eventually even come back. While I waited , I figured I'd get dressed , eat breakfast and do some exercise since I will be doing a lot of exercising in China because there is going to be big rocks or wiggly rocks too that I will need to climb. After I finished exercising , I double checked my suitcase so I don't leave anything important behind.



A few hours had passed. I said my goodbyes , ordered a taxi to the airport and was ready to have a fun and exciting trip! After I arrived at the airport , I checked in and did some research about dinosaur fossils whilst I waited. One thing that really caught to my attention was that people have found dinosaur fossils on all seven continents! That means that I could even find dinosaur fossil in my home town ; But I can't change my destination now , because I was already at the airport. It had been a while since I came to the airport , so I was hoping that my flight was on time. Minutes passed by and my flight was ready , I was so excited that I was jumping up and down non stop.

After hours and hours of travelling , I finally arrived at my destination Sichuan , which was the hometown of dinosaurs . I was hoping to find a lot more dinosaurs fossils than the Chinese explorer who Jack was watching a few months ago. Little did I know I was wrong , because when I actually went into the forest and mountains with my tools and backpack , I only found 2–3 fossils in 3 hours. I was disappointed but kept going and going until I saw this giant rock and something hit me ; it might be dinosaur fossils! I started preparing my big tools and carefully cut open the giant rock. Hours and hours had passed by when the rock finally opened it and there it was ; the biggest dinosaur fossil I had ever seen in my life! My dream had finally come true. I could even be famous because of this discovery! Then I realised how difficult it would be to bring it back to the hotel or even my hometown. Then I used all my strength to pick it up and carry it with my bare hands , but it took forever! Finally I arrived at my hotel , I called my parents and they were so happy that I had finally fulfilled my dream and hoped that I would find more fossils. Laying in bed that night , knowing my dream had been finally been fulfilled was the most rewarding feeling ever!

# The Trip To The Jurassic Period

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Zhan, Xiaomo – 9*

Once upon time, there was a China's dinosaur named Rex. He was now in the Cretaceous Period, and he wanted to travel to the past. Now in the dinosaur island, it was illegal. Rex was a T-Rex with very sharp teeth that could crush a hundred bones at a time. And another illegal thing in this dinosaur island was that dinosaurs could not have diaries. If someone discovered that they had, then they would have a punishment. But surprisingly, Rex had a dairy.

Alley, Rex's friend, had the same dream of traveling to the past too.

A day passed, and Rex met Alley in Rex's cave.

'Ssshhhh...Alley! Don't let others hear it!' Rex whispered, trying really hard to be quiet.

'Okay!' Alley whispered back softly, and continued. 'Anyways. As I already said, we need to secretly leave at night.'

Rex nodded. They caught some preys for supper, and secretly tiptoed out when other animals were sleeping at night.

First, they tiptoed quietly to the magical cave one kilometre in front of the cave that Rex lived in. Then, they went into the cave, and Alley said softly, 'We have to find the odd bones in this cave. Let's find them.' Alley looked at the right half of the cave, while Rex looked at the left part of the cave.

'Found it!' Alley said. All of a sudden, all of the bones moved, revealing a gigantic, murky hole. They went into the hole, and landed in another world.

Suddenly, a piece of paper fell down, and landed on the ground.

It said, this is another world that guides you to the Jurassic period, and to arrive there, you have to follow the map written below.

Then, Rex and Alley walked forward, following the route that was on the map.

First, they walked carefully and slowly forward as what the map said. All of a sudden, a tree appeared in front of them.

A line of words were written there: please follow the instructions: If you see a plant, do not touch it, otherwise you will be in danger. Also, if you see an animal, do not touch it.

After they read this, they were very shocked. Even so, they continued to walk forward. At the beginning, they saw some beautiful plants. Rex couldn't help touching the green plant. Alley tried to stop Rex, but before Alley even said a word, Rex touched it. Then, Rex suddenly fell to the ground heavily.

'Rex! Please wake up!' Alley screamed. He suddenly sweated, feeling like he was having a cold shower. Then, Alley looked around. He suddenly had an idea. He got some grass, a grey stone, and used the stone to crush the grass. The grass slowly turned into liquid, and Alley put the green, slimy liquid into a plastic cup he found nearby. Then, he got some water to fill the cup. After that, he put some soil into the cup. He used the stone to crush all of the things inside the cup, and put them gently on the soft grass. He put some more water, and poured them all into Rex's opening mouth.

'Rex! Please wake up! I cannot go to the Jurassic period without you! Please wake up!' Alley sighed. How he wished Rex would wake up!

Suddenly, Rex opened his eyes a bit. He said, 'I'm okay.' Then, Rex stood up slowly, saying weakly, 'Let's go.' Rex slowly walked. Suddenly they saw an animal, without thinking, Alley brought Rex away, and they landed in the Jurassic period.

'Finally! We arrived in the Jurassic period!' Alley said. They looked around, surprised to see many dinosaurs here.

The flowers and trees welcomed them by dancing around, and many dinosaurs were there. Some dinosaurs were chewing preys.

While dinosaurs passed by them, they felt as though these dinosaurs were invisible, and they ran around, watching every dinosaur doing things.

Rex and Alley walked forward, and then they followed behind one of the dinosaurs that was also walking forward.

Just then, they saw a dinosaur that had a very long neck and a long tail, it was grey, and it looked long but not tall. It had large, giant feet that stomped around, making sounds that were very obvious to hear even a mile away.

The greyish dinosaur that they were following behind started to walk towards a tall tree that was tall enough for the dinosaur to reach, and it started crunching on the leaves. When Rex turned his head, Alley was gone.

Rex walked around, finally to see Alley sitting quietly beside a tall tree, looking at another land. Between their land and that land, there was a fantastic, attracting large lake filled with different creatures that they had never seen in their period before.

'This is so beautiful!' Rex and Alley said together, still looking at the landscape that fully attracted them.

Meanwhile, Rex was still sitting with Alley. He got a stone, and started to carve a heart on it. Then, he carved more, making the stone turn into a heart. He drew a vertical line that ran from the top to the bottom, dug a hole, buried the heart inside, made another similar heart, and held it with Alley.

'I, Rex.' Rex said, holding one half of the heart.

'I, Alley.' Alley said, closing his eyes with Rex, and holding the other half of the heart Rex carved.

'We, achieved our goal! We think this is the best time of our life ever!' They shouted happily at the same time.

# Buried Under

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Zhang, Hing Yan – 10*

“Liwen! Wake up, lazybones!” the big unmistakably—my— brother’s hands shook me again and again. I don’t know why they thought that was “the normal way” of waking people up. No. Not funny.

They always blamed me for having a hissy fit, but I was just a very determined sleeper. NOT FUNNY.

Libo turned around. “Just be a bit faster, can you? I’m going to be late!”

I groaned. “Not my problem that you force me to go to school along with you at sunrise! It already sucks that girls are not allowed to go to school. *Now* first I can’t go to school and you can and then you make me wake up to go along with *you* to school.”

He groaned back. “Well, it’s not safe for you to be here all by yourself, though. Mama and Pa had gone to work.”

I rolled over. Also not my problem is that he gets informed of all the stuff. I don’t even know where Mama and Pa go.

“Fine, I give in. But not to you. I’m going to Wenxu’s.” Wenxu was my best friend. Since her father was working in “a faraway land” she only had her mother. She too had a brother, though he did not go to school because he had to earn money for the family. Wenxu’s father only gave a little bit of money.

Her brother shook his head in a grown-up way and shrugged a fine. Now school was his own problem now.

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“What do you mean not here? I know she’s here! Always!” I exclaimed.

But Wenxu’s mother just kept on shaking her head. “No, she snuck out with Wenfu. Did you guys, say, get into a fight? She probably is a bit annoyed. She’s gone to the seaside with her brother.”

I refused to give up.

“Then I will go to the seaside, too.”

Wenxu’s mother nodded and closed the door with a silent thud.

*Doesn't she care?* Did she just blame me? She has no compassion for Wenxu. But I have.

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The sand was refusing to give up pushing me back. Well, want a fight, have one. I’m not weak, and I won’t be beat.

Blinking away the sand, I raced to the endless sea of blue.

“Wenxu!” Of course, I shouted her name, but, not to my surprise and to my despair, no one responded.

I trotted down the beach, feeling scared and angry at the same time. Maybe it was my fault I got into fits. My fault. Wenxu was gone.

But suddenly, I tripped over a lump, or maybe, a stump, on the ground, or should I say, the sand. As I leaned down to look for what had tripped me I saw that there was not a stump. But something white. Something like a bone.

I froze. Did—did Wenxu d—d—die? Why? WHY must everything happen to me? Why did I have no mother and father to care for me, no compassionate brother, no best friend. I’m the cause. I really am the cause.

About time to go, to leave her. But I stepped on something. A piece of paper.

What—NO! Not something even worse! Fine, even if Wenxu forgave me I can’t look at her writing. I can’t remember her again.

Still, I unfolded the crumpled remains of Wenxu.

TO LIWEN: DON’T FEAR THE BONE. IT’S NOT MINE.

I wanted to scream and run into the sea and hug anyone nearby. *NOPE, keep reading. Oh, and who can I hug?* My brian thought.

ALSO, THAT IS A BONE FROM AN ANIMAL WHO DIED 65 MILLION YEARS AGO. SOMETHING WITH THREE HORNS AND LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE THINGS MOTHER TOLD US ABOUT THAT WAS BROUGHT TO CHINA CALLED RINO OR SOMETHING. I WONDER WHAT THAT IS?

Hmmm. Died 65 million years ago. And looks like one of those Rino things. I don't think there is a particular animal like that.

ALSO ALSO, I AM GOING TO "SOMEWHERE" WITH WENFU. HE AGREED! PLEASE BE FINDING THIS THE DAY AFTER WE GOT INTO A FIGHT BECAUSE HE JUST AGREED TO TAKE YOU WITH US! ASK LIBO IF HE WANTS TO COME. MEET US AT THE RESTAURANT THAT SERVES STINKY TOFU. RIGHT BESIDE HUALING'S HOUSE.

Really? We can get out of this town? With Wenxu? But not Libo. Why must Libo come? And why must we meet at the stinky tofu shop? Well, Wenfu likes stinky tofu.

LAST THING, TELL PROFESSOR TAOGU ABOUT THAT RINO THING. DON'T BE LATE!

Great. I have to tell Dr. Tao. Another prank from Wenxu. Taogu was THE most crankiest teacher of all time. You do not crank a prank-y person. No. You do not prank a crank-y person. Bingo!

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"Um- Dr. Tao?" I gave a small tap on the door.

I expected a big, angry, monstrous teacher barging out and shouting at her archeology score. Well, not *that* monstrous. But monstrous enough.

Here's how it went. I tapped the door and a big, angry, sufficiently-monstrous Dr. Tao screamed at me. I did it again and he screamed at-finally-my archeology score. In my last try, I held the bone up and he screamed at it and his eyes widened. It was pretty like Liubei visiting the smart guy three times!

Back in real life, Dr. Tao was telling me that was a particular bone he never saw. Most importantly, he said I would be famous! And then he said "That's bad. Liwen, run right now and bury the bone somewhere.

"Why?"

"The emperor wants stuff like this and since you're female..." He shook his head. "And since that you can't do what a male could do if they found that. Quite the opposite, in fact."

Shock shot through me. Well, Wenxu found it but I still could take the blame. He couldn't be serious. Yet if someone like HIM would tell me that, I had to believe.

Culching the "precious" bone, I ran to the seaside for it to be buried under.

# Ada's Magical Journey

*Victoria Shanghai Academy, Zhao, Andrea – 10*

Look ! Ada points to the sky, the skeleton of a dinosaur is flying up to the sky. The scientist shouted " This is amazing ! " But, somethings really strange starts to happening .

A few hours ago, Ada and the scientists were still researching the dinosaur. They discovered, collected and studied the skeleton of the dinosaur Lufengosaurus Xushi in Yunnan, in 1938, they also discovered many other dinosaur's skeleton in Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang too. Ada discovered that the dinosaur's body was trembling slightly, so she immediately reported this to the scientists. But they didn't care at first, until……

Bang, bang, bang, clang ! The dinosaur's skeleton slowly flew up, and grabbed Ada. Ada shouted, "Ah, let me down." But the dinosaur skeleton was indifferent and flew away into the distance. In the upon sky, Ada shouted "What do you want? let me down!" The skeleton moans "Can you be my friend? I've been sleeping under the ground for a million years, I can take you anywhere!" Ada nodded, "Yes", she said .

After all , Ada and the gentle dinosaur travel around the world and spend time together, so they become best friends forever!

# The Museum's Fantastical Journey

*Ying Wa Primary School, Cai, Chuan Yi – 12*

Each summer, my parents' work commitments meant I attended various interest classes, usually leaving me dissatisfied. However, this year was different. I was overjoyed because they enrolled me in a study tour to the renowned Zigong Dinosaur Museum in Sichuan, famous for its Jurassic dinosaur fossils. I was so excited, I could hardly sleep.

At the museum, I eagerly entered the dinosaur fossil hall, feeling like I was stepping into an ancient adventure. The primeval forest scenery and fossils, displayed as they were found, created a sense of mystery and wonder, transporting me back millions of years.

Suddenly, a uniquely cracked dinosaur egg caught my eye. Curious, I carefully pried it open, revealing a faint glow. Intrigued, I tried again, and with a burst of light, I was instantly engulfed.

As the light faded, I found myself in a living dinosaur fossil site. Unsure if it was an illusion or a dream, I saw the peculiar egg shaking violently. It cracked open, revealing a small creature with horns and a tail.

"Hello," I cautiously greeted the creature.

To my surprise, the creature somersaulted, waved, and a colorful cloud appeared. Leaping onto it, the creature extended a hand and said, "I am the son of Hou Yi and Chang'e. We are going to find Nüwa." Before I could react, it pulled me onto the cloud.

Riding the cloud for the first time, I was astonished and elated. "My name is Chuan. What's your name, and why do you have horns and a tail?" I asked.

The creature ignored my questions, eyes anxiously fixed ahead. "I was visiting the dinosaur museum... You said you're Hou Yi and Chang'e's son. How about 'Little Dragon'?"

"I've waited for tens of thousands of years. I should at least thank you first. Otherwise, I couldn't have broken out of the shell on my own."

"You said we are going to find Nüwa?"

"Yes, only Nüwa knows where my parents are."

Suddenly, a colossal roar echoed like a mountain collapsing, and a torrential flood cascaded from one corner of the sky.

"Nüwa, where are my parents?" A graceful fairy emerged from the clouds, looking at Little Dragon with compassion. "You came too late. To prevent the evil god from obtaining the elixir, your mother took it herself. Her legs became the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers, leaving you in the human world. She is now the Moon Goddess, forever watching over the Earth."

"And my father?"

"Your father was tasked with hunting the Sun God's ten sons," Nüwa said worriedly. "Now I have a request. Gonggong and Zhuanxu's battle shattered Buzhou Mountain, threatening a global flood. To save the Earth and punish greedy humans, a demigod must sacrifice themselves..."

I grabbed Little Dragon urgently, shouting, "Nüwa is lying! I've read the story of Noah's Ark—in the end, the great flood still swept across the Earth. Whatever you do, you can't save humanity!"

"In the Eastern Hemisphere, where the sun rises, there is still time," Nüwa said calmly, unperturbed.

"Can I see my father one more time?" Tears sparkled in Little Dragon's clear eyes.

“Here.” Nüwa waved her hand, and the dark clouds in the west parted instantly. A familiar figure appeared before us.

Little Dragon’s father, Hou Yi, donned in dazzling armor and holding a divine bow, aimed at the tenth sun, ready to shoot it down.

“Stop!” The Sun God roared, “Hou Yi, will you not spare even my last son?”

Hou Yi bowed deeply to the Sun God and spoke sincerely, “Your sons have committed many evil deeds. The ten suns were meant to rise and set in turn to nourish Earth. Now, they appear together, scorching the land and ignoring all advice. By the Heavenly God’s order, I have come to punish the wicked.”

“You dare not!”

“Sun God, the love for one’s children is universal. However, should we not hold anyone accountable for the devastation on Earth?” Hou Yi said earnestly. “My wife resolutely left the human world to fight against the evil god, flying alone to the moon, never to see me again. Now, only by seeking justice for the human world and the animal and plant worlds can the three realms live in eternal harmony.”

With that, Hou Yi mustered all his strength, drew the divine bow, and shot down the tenth sun. He then knelt down and absorbed the ten suns into his body

“Father...!” Little Dragon cried out.

“For the eternal harmony of the divine, human, and natural realms, your father has ultimately transformed into the sun, guarding the other side of the Earth,” Nüwa said lovingly. “Now the flood begins to spread. Are you willing to sacrifice yourself?”

Little Dragon grasped his horns and pulled them out with great effort. Tears welled up in Nüwa’s eyes as she took the horns, transforming them into colorful stones to patch the corner of the sky. The torrent of flooding gradually stopped.

At that moment, Little Dragon slowly transformed into a towering snow-capped mountain, rising higher and higher... I stood atop the mighty peak and realized it was Mount Everest, the place closest to the sun on Earth and the source of the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers.

Tears streamed uncontrollably from my eyes. As a tear fell on the towering peak, the entire Himalayas shook violently, and a blinding light, accompanied by swirling snow, engulfed me...

In a hazy daze, I found myself back next to the dinosaur egg in the museum, but the peculiar “dinosaur egg” was gone! I quickly scanned the nearby exhibit photo and saw that the peculiar “egg” was still in the picture.

Despite feeling a bit uneasy, I also felt an indescribable sense of comfort and responsibility. Slowly walking out of the museum, I felt the sunlight and an unprecedented strength. I knew that this was not just a thrilling mythical journey but also the awakening and inheritance of five thousand years of Chinese civilization.



# Mayhem in Prehistoric China

*Ying Wa Primary School, Lo, Hiu Sum – 11*

## The First Day of Survival

“What happened?!” he exclaimed, panic rising in his chest. His mind spiraled into a state of turmoil. He tried to shake the disbelief, but the transformation was too hard to accept. His hands, normally human, had three long claws instead of fingers in their place.

Overcoming his initial shock, he saw that everything was lush and verdant, unpolluted by humans. As the knowledgeable student he was, he realised he was a Guanlong by looking at his reflection in the water, thanks to his extensive training as a fossil researcher in Liaoning Province. Not many people went down this path in modern China since it required further research. Now that he knew what he was, the question was: how did he get here? After pondering in silence for a while, an idea struck him. Right before he blacked out, he had used a CT scanner on the specific dinosaur he was now. Could it have been the gamma rays that reflected off the fossil? Thinking of no other reasons, he settled on the reasoning.

A Guanlong was a four-metre-long dinosaur with a visible but weak head crest. As a Guanlong, his diet consisted of small creatures. He slowly crept into a bush, hiding in the plants. He observed a small lizard scuttling across the collapsed bark of a tree. Jinming leaped out of the overgrowth, pouncing on the unfortunate prey. It fell to the gleaming teeth of Jinming. Jinming immediately devoured the small creature, satisfying a portion of his hunger. If he were trapped here for quite a while, he might need more food. As a result, Jinming kept an eye out for anything edible. Here, his greatest advantage was his dinosaur knowledge, as he knew what was edible and what was not, reducing the risk of eating something harmful. Even so, there were tons of forgotten species of plants in this prehistoric period, so he couldn't fully count on his information. As he contemplated survival, he remembered the river where he first saw his appearance in this new world. He thought, “By combining some of the materials in the river,” remembering a field trip with his research friends, “I can make a water filter! At least my drinking problem is solved!” Just by thinking, he found some relief amidst his confusion.

## The Second Day of Survival

As Jinming slept on the grassy bed of the wild, a faint sound of rampaging creatures in the distance reached his ears. Even though it was quite far away, Jinming still worried that the horde of marauding dinosaurs would make it to where he was, sending a stinging chill down his spine. So, Jinming started working on finding allies to possibly fight with him. He wandered around nature, hoping to find more of his kind or some unlikely allies between species.

Firstly, he gathered big leaves to act as bandages to heal wounds sustained in battle. Next, Jinming found some sharp rocks. He mashed them together, strengthening the tips of his makeshift weapons.

As he was looking for more ‘weapons’, a Microraptor approached Jinming, asking, “Can we join forces to defeat the rampaging dinosaurs? I could probably convince my clan to fight with us.” Jinming thought that this was a brilliant idea, so together, they banded up in hopes of fighting off the mysterious ancient forces of nature.

## The Third Day of Survival

Waking up first among all his other allies, Jinming saw that the ‘mysterious dinosaurs’ were a starving band of Yangchuanosaurus! These dinosaurs were the top predators in the ancient times of China. But now, this was a dangerous reality for Jinming. These Yangchuanosaurus bared their gleaming fangs as they glinted in the morning sun. Their feet

ran easily over the rocky terrain of the Microraptor's domain, charging at the scrumptious prey that were right in front of them. Their galloping alerted the Microraptors and they jolted up, grabbing their makeshift weapons. Even though they outnumbered the enemy, they all knew they were a cunning and powerful foe.

The Yangchuanosaurus ducked under a stone, the stone swinging high above its head. The Yangchuanosaurus swung its head down and hit a Microraptor, knocking it out. It then proceeded to tear apart its flesh and gulped it down. Jinming, seeing this, felt his anger flare and drew upon his training in military school. Even though he completely forgot the vital rule of staying composed, Jinming successfully stabbed his makeshift weapon into soft flesh. His opponent's muscles constricted, then fell limply onto the floor. Jinming then utilised the dead body as a shield, ducking behind it as a Yangchuanosaurus charged at Jinming. It tripped over the corpse and Jinming struck his weapon into the underbelly of the Yangchuanosaurus.

The Microraptors, seeing Jinming annihilate two of the enemies, regained their fighting spirit and fought back valiantly against the vicious predators. On the other hand, the Yangchuanosaurus were losing courage. They had probably never seen one of their own die in combat, let alone two. They had visibly been shaken by the turn of events. Jinming's allies seized this golden opportunity. The hunters had become the hunted. Their enemies turned tail and tried to flee into the safety of the trees and plants, but the Microraptors were far more agile. One ducked under a branch, pursuing every enemy until they were all eliminated.

Eventually, Jinming struck a vital point on the last Yangchuanosaurus, and they succeeded! They had eliminated all their enemies! The Microraptors, seeing this scene, proceeded to return and recover, using some large leaves to stem the bleeding.

Once the dust had settled, a glimmer caught Jinming's eye – a large, deep blue sphere, cool to the touch and humming with energy. Its power enveloped Jinming, luring him in as he rubbed its light blue shell, resembling a CT scanner's rays. In that moment, everything faded to black. He was thrust back to the present world, leaving behind the wonders of Ancient China.

# You Are China's Dinosaur Guardian of Ancient and Modern Worlds

*Ying Wa Primary School, Miu, Lik Yan Nathan – 12*

“Could this be...the key to time?” Dongyang murmured to himself. Suddenly, he was sucked into the parchment by an unknown force, and all around him faded to black...

On a sunny afternoon, Dongyang was sitting in the library, flipping through a fascinating book about China's dinosaur discoveries: China has become a major center of fossil discoveries, dating back to the 1990s, a farmer discovered the world's first feathered dinosaur, *Sinosauropteryx*, or "China dragon bird," marked a pivotal moment. Afterwards, Liaoning province found over 40 dinosaur species, including 24 pterosaurs, and Jiangxi recently added a new titanosaur species. China's paleontological potential is unlimited, as many places are still unexplored, we are looking forward to hearing more astonishing discoveries.

The Dashanpu Middle Jurassic Dinosaur Fossils Site in Zigong, China, is a global paleontological treasure. There were over 200 dinosaur and animal fossils, including the best-preserved eusauropoda and the most complete primitive stegosaur, people called the place a time machine. It has been recognized as a "Geological Heritage Site" as well. Dashanpu reveals China's dinosaurs thrived 160 million years ago.

When Dongyang was marvelling at the amazing discoveries of China's dinosaurs, a mysterious wind blew by, turning the pages faster and faster, until an ancient parchment fell out from within the book. Dongyang picked it up curiously and saw a vividly drawn Chinese dinosaur, its eyes seeming to flicker with a strange light. When he opened his eyes again, he found himself standing in a forest with the scent of agarwood. A colossal Chinese dinosaur was circling in the sky, its scales shimmering with golden light in the sun, how gorgeous! Dongyang feels a mix of astonishment and disbelief. The unexpected journey through time has taken him to a place in the rich history and legends he has only read about.

“Who are you? Why have you disturbed my slumber?” The Chinese dinosaur's voice rumbled like thunder in Dongyang's ears. Dongyang was speechless. “I am the Chinese Dinosaur who guards time, responsible for protecting history. But an evil sorcerer wants to alter history and use Chinese dinosaurs' power for his bad plans. You must help me stop him.” In the tense atmosphere, Dongyang nodded in agreement. The Chinese Dinosaur told him the sorcerer was on a nearby mountain peak, casting a spell to change history. Dongyang had to stop him before sunset, or history would be rewritten.

As the sun slowly set down, the sky was tinged with red afterglow, Dongyang knew that time was limited. “We have been looking for a brave hero to fight with us. You must be the hero who was sent by God, to protect Chinese history and culture. Now, I give the jade pendant to you, it is a super powerful weapon against the sorcerer. The Jade pendant is not only a symbol of courage and wisdom, but also justice and light. When you face the sorcerer's dark magic, you clutch the jade pendant into your palm tightly, feel the warmth and strength I convey to you,” the Chinese Dinosaur said. At this same time, it seems connected to the power of the Chinese Dinosaur, providing Dongyang with continuous support.

The sorcerer's hideout was concealed in a deep, gloomy valley, with an ominous fog swirling around. Dongyang approached carefully. The sorcerer's voice echoed through the valley, filled with dark magic: “Ignorant child, how dare you intrude upon my domain!” The sorcerer's figure loomed in and out of the mist, his shadow raised high, causing the sky to darken with clouds and thunder to crackle. At the same time, Dongyang did not retreat, he took a deep breath, focused his mind, raised the jade pendant high, and loudly recited the incantation taught by the Chinese Dinosaur: “True power comes from the courage and wisdom within.” The pendant emitted a dazzling light, contending with the sorcerer's dark magic. The light pierced through the darkness like a sword, dispersing the fog in the valley. The sorcerer roared, intensifying his magical assault, causing the entire valley to tremble. Rocks crumbled, and the ground split, but Dongyang stood firm as Mount Tai, his conviction unyielding! He knew this battle was not just for himself, but to protect history from being altered and the safety of all Chinese dinosaurs.

In this contest of light and darkness, the radiance of Dongyang's pendant grew brighter and brighter, his courage and wisdom pushed to the limits. His duel with the sorcerer was an epic battle, each exchange of spells like a thunderbolt, awe-inspiring.

Finally, after a powerful clash, the sorcerer's dark magic was utterly shattered, and his figure disappeared in the light. Dongyang panted, his sweat and tears mixed altogether, but a victorious smile graced his face. The Chinese Dinosaur flew back, and shouted with a deafening roar, its voice filled with praise and gratitude for Dongyang. "Well done, Dongyang," the Chinese Dinosaur said, "This battle between good and evil was not just a test of strength but a trial of courage and wisdom. You have proven yourself a true guardian."

Dongyang understood that everyone has a Chinese Dinosaur within, representing courage, wisdom, and strength. When we face difficulties bravely and solve problems with wisdom, we can become guardians in our own lives. Dongyang's heart was more resolute than ever, he knew that no matter when or where, there was light within, darkness could not consume all.

In the corner of the library, there was a new book about time travel and the legend of the Chinese dinosaurs, waiting for the next brave and wise guardian to discover.

# Protecting the Sacred Fossil

*Ying Wa Primary School, Wong, Ho Nam – 12*

The humans had conquered every piece of land available, extracting fossils for them to be specimens. The only shelter— the eye in the storm, were the shrines the dinosaurs had constructed or excavated around the globe. Our story takes place in a shrine, built into mount tai— a hill that towered everything until the horizon. It was run by the Guanlong species (unlike our world, this multiverse had living dinosaurs), and they ran the facility by ranks.

There were hidden gems everywhere, but none stood up to this — resting on a pillar, there laid the sacred fossil. Unlike others, it changed colours at its own will, with a disc-shaped aura presenting its mystical power. It also shot a pillar of light visible to anyone. The dinosaurs knelt to it every day.

Location: another multiverse

The room was bare of decorations. It had a polished stone floor, and a brick wall, with a wooden roof. The contents inside were the complex parts— dozens of failed experiments, and finally, a hyperspace—transport machine up and running.

Dave looked at his tablet, viewing the future of the dinosaurs. He saw disaster. He saw chaos. No, he thought, I have to stop this.

So he stepped into the machine and pressed the panel, requesting travel. The machine responded by releasing a swirl of blue light, engulfing him. Soon, he was nowhere to be seen.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dave was transported to the worker's area in the Guanlong shrine. He waited for the blue light to fade, and activated his invisibility.

“Hurry up! The extra rooms are to be finished before new births!” The worker dinosaurs had no time to spare. They had to work every day to expand the living area, keeping up with the flow of newborns.

Pieces of rocks dropped onto the ground. The mining was progressing at a satisfactory pace.

Dave had seen enough. He latched his hands onto the teleport button.

The king, meanwhile, was having his own time relaxing in his throne room, but was rudely interrupted by his servant bursting open his door in a panic.

Still panting from the marathon he ran, the servant said “Your highness, the humans are back to extract our fossils.”

“So? Leave them. We won't even stand a chance anyways.”

“They’re not aiming for those. They are coming for the sacred fossil.”

“Wake up!” the servant yelled at the sleeping fighters. Some yawned from the lack of sleep. Not the optimal condition for an army, but that’s too much to ask for when it was midnight.

John grabbed his slingshot and a few magazines of pebbles.

John’s brigade leader, Noah, woke up a lazy comrade of Dave’s and took as well, a slingshot and a few handfuls of iron pebbles.

When John and his team got out of the shrine, he was greeted with chaos. Bullets were fired up the mountain, retaliated by flaming branches and a barrage of stones hurling down the mountain.

The yellow river was going to become the red river if this continued.

Location: Throne room

The throne room was full of gold decorations, making it a luxurious haven. Gold mound, gold pool, gold throne...

A blue veil of light appearing in the middle of the room took the king off guard. The king’s servant fled without hesitation as if it was his second nature.

The light slowly dimmed and faded, revealing Dave. “We have to establish peace, or else more lives will be at stake.”

That fueled up the king’s resistance, “No! We cannot let the sacred fossil fall into enemy hands!”

“Fine. I’ll go to the human camp in an attempt to persuade them.” a puff of smoke appeared in thin air.

Location: Human camp

The camp was just a few tents with electrical supply. Laptops, monitors, and control panels were set up.

The mist of smoke came, blinding everyone’s vision. Dave stepped out of the smoke.

“Look, the dinosaurs and you are both on thin ice. The dinosaurs are getting pushed back, yes, but for what? They will go down with the ship, and the sacred fossil does not grant any powers. Your team would lose half the troops if you don’t pull back and negotiate.”

The commander of the brigade thought: On one hand, who was this? He was not to be trusted. On the other hand, he might be correct. If the fossil did grant legendary abilities, then the dinosaurs would have surely used them to protect themselves.

“Stop the artillery barrage. We are to negotiate.”

John saw a grenade soar through the sky, thrown to land on him. He closed his eyes, bracing for impact, but it... refused to detonate. He took a breath of relief, as his life just flashed before his eyes.

Then, a weird signal was transmitted. It was to negotiate?

Everyone put down their weapons and laid on the ground, tired from the fight. Noah and the other high ranked dinosaurs walked down the rocky paved road, towards the human camp.

Good news was delivered after a while.

A treaty was established. The dinosaurs would obtain control of the land close to the shrines, without any human interference, while the dinosaurs could not kill humans or threaten normal human life outside their territory.

When the news was broadcasted, a flurry of torches and iron pebbles were launched into the air. The dinosaurs were free to develop, civilize, as they wanted, without clashes with humans hindering their progress.

As the sun sank below the Yellow River, which was trying hard to clear away the red makeup it was given, the dinosaurs slowly went back into the shrine. Armies were retired. The light that the sun drew its light on the Yellow River would never reflect to show red anymore.

# The Bonded Micro-raptor

*Ying Wa Primary School, Wong, Kin Cheong – 12*

In the midst of the mountains, there lay a strong and well-known empire — the Qin Empire, led by a young and bold emperor named Nero. Nero had a secret bond with a special type of Chinese dinosaur that was thought to be extinct 100 years ago — micro-raptors. Micro-raptors had feathers all over their body, so that's why Nero, who was half bonded with micro-raptors also had feathers on his back so he always used his clothes to cover the gorgeous black feathers on his back so he used his clothes to cover the gorgeous black feathers on his back since he thought people would be afraid of him. Nero also had another secret, only his long lost family knew — he had an elder sister named Lucina and had the other half of the bond with the micro-raptor.

One day, Nero was relaxing leisurely in his grand Imperial Palace, but suddenly his feathers felt really hurt as if they were burning. Nero was annoyed by this and quickly took out the book of “Chinese Dinosaurs” which his father gave him before his death and flipped to the chapter of “Micro-raptors”. He quickly scanned through the mountain of words, then suddenly slowed down at one specific paragraph. The paragraph read “If one is connected to micro-raptors and has sudden pain for a short period of time, it means that the bonded micro-raptor is very near to the bonded person”. Nero was astonished by the news, he quickly suited up into armour, rode on his horse and excused himself to go explore in the deep forest where his bonded micro-raptor could most possibly be in.

Nero first scanned through the landscape of the forest, meticulously looking at the surroundings to see if there were any clues leading to the missing micro-raptor. He looked through the entire forest for hours but there were still no signs of the micro-raptor. Just as Nero was about to give up, he saw a perfectly black, pearl colored feather on the ground to the entrance to the cave. Identifying the unique feather with such excitement, Nero immediately sprinted towards the cave, not knowing something really bad would happen to him.

The first thing he saw was a beautifully grown micro-raptor, its feathers just the same as Nero's meaning it was his bonded micro-raptor. As Nero knelt down softly on the floor, a familiar figure leaped out furiously from the cave, Nero instantly turned his head up with curiosity to find out an army of about a dozens of soldiers in armour holding sharp and shiny knives, with a young girl leading the group. Nero looked at the girl closely and realized it was his long lost sister — Lucina. Nero asked her sister confusedly, “Sis, why are you here and who are these men holding these dangerous weapons? Are you trying to kill me?”

Lucina pointed her sharp knife towards Nero and said, “Yes, little brother... I'm going to kill you if you don't give me something!”

Nero replied, “Then what do you want?”

Lucina said, “Well... Since you, my little brother is the king of the Qin Dynasty while I am just a normal lady. I would like you to give me the heir of the throne since I'm older than you!”

“No! Never! Never in my life would I do that!” Nero shouted furiously.

“If you won't give up the throne, then let's have a duel battle to decide who gets the throne! Lucina replied.

Nero realized this was a trap! His sister put the micro-raptor in the entrance of the cave to get his attention and lure him to get closer to the cave. But now, the more important thing was the decision of escaping or fighting, and there was no way he was going to escape his sister and a dozen men holding weapons. So, he decided to fight! “Let's fight!” he shouted. Just like that, the fight was between Nero and his sister.

Nero took out his knife and killed Lucina's sisters like a piece of cake until it was just down to Nero and Lucina. The two fought for hours, but still they wouldn't give up, and that's when they both started getting really tired and ended up agreeing to a draw.



They both dropped down their weapons and looked at each other warmly and both of them realized that all of this was wrong! They shouldn't have fought with each other, they were brothers and sisters! So, they both agreed to let Nero continue to be king and Lucina being his assistant and saved their bonded micro-raptor by taking it to the palace and keeping the tiny dinosaur as a pet.

# The Wartime Chinese Dinosaur

*Ying Wa Primary School, Wong, Tsz Hin Dave – 11*

1857

“Bang!” Missiles shot through him, impaling him.

“Chong An!”

The soldier woke up with terrible wounds. The war raged on for three years with no end in sight. He got up, remembering the Second Opium War just started. Russian troops were sent to fight in the North.

Chong looked at his suit—a yellow traditional Chinese suit with poking half-circles alongside red lining—remembering the reason he joined the army—for Chinese respect. With his broken leg, he rested and was fast asleep.

Chong woke up worried about his companions. He got up on his knees. The bonfire was gone. There was a chilling sensation, with multiple shadows lurking nearby, but nobody knew what it was. The other soldiers were asleep. Chong felt a bad feeling, and marched into the city of Arsenyev and saw terrible things. Trees were falling. Houses were crumbling. Farms were burning. He bowed down to his citizens, but he got up in big trouble.

It was the Russian Army.

They opened fire, quickly refilling their gunpowder. Tanks were closing in. Chong had no choice, having to flee. Hiding in one of the houses, hoping that he would stay unnoticed.

It was one of the less damaged houses in the area. There was a traditional rectangular Chinese lamp. He pulled the red, striped curtains and turned it on, seeing a mess inside this home. Colourful buttoned clothes were scattered across the room. A wooden chair stubbed Chong's toe. The kitchen was filled with spilled tea leaves and water, as he picked up multiple muzzles on the ground. He went for more tea, dropping muzzles on the wooden ground. It cracked, giving Chong an idea. Using a few sticks of bamboo and a metal plate, he built a shovel to dig an underground tunnel for a bunker. As he dug, he smelled something peculiar, like someone smoking. He could hear breathing sounds, and knew there was something lurking in the soil. He grabbed his shovel, dug, and unearthed something he never expected to find.

There was a dormant dinosaur!

Chong screamed at the top of his lungs. The dinosaur's eyes popped open, stretching itself.

He took a glance at the young dinosaur. It had a brown and green striped body. Its four legs had a shade of brown, with its grey feet with three toes, making for a fascinating scene.

When it moved out of the way, he saw a gigantic hole with multiple bones. Chong examined one. The dinosaur roared at him. He had to convince the dinosaur to get in. He petted it, which was enough to persuade it to let Chong go in. With several dinosaur fossils around, they originated from millions of years ago, dug all the way up, and stopped when the creature was dormant.

Chong got up. The dinosaur was getting fussy. He petted it again. It made a sound.

"Puuuuuuurrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr!"

He recognized it as “friendly”, deciding to name him Hadro. After more petting and gnarling, Chong realised it was only a matter of time the Russians would find his secret hideout, having to strike the Russians back before they were dead. Digging a hole underground blocked the way, cutting off the Russian troops.

“Why is the ground shaking so — Woah!”

Hadro climbed up. Fireballs fell down to the ground, making the dinosaur angry. Russian soldiers abandoned their cannons and ran. There were no more than a thousand soldiers on the battlefield. The commander fled and coldly screamed, “This isn’t the last you heard of Alexey Fyodorovich Orlov!” Chong’s blood froze. Alexey had a decent reputation in the Napoleonic Wars and the Turkish War of 1828. Chong wasn’t sure if they would win the war, but felt confident surviving with Hadro.

Hadro was ravenous. Chong didn’t know what Hadro ate, tossing a few leaves. Hydro munched them up eagerly.

They got near modern Novostroyka. Russian troops were stationed there, with Chinese soldiers taken captive. Guns were pointed at citizens ready to be executed. When he was thinking of an idea, Hadro dug for leaves. An idea struck Chong and convinced Hadro to dig beneath a pile of leaves. Chong climbed up to save the Chinese soldiers. He didn’t get to where he desired.

It was quite the opposite.

Russian soldiers were surrounding the area.

They dragged him and the dinosaur out of the hole, trapping them in a cage with other Chinese citizens.

Later, the guard got shot. Gunpowder and water spilled out of his pocket, with Chong getting an idea. Hadro coated everyone in its body, and were prepared. Mixing some gunpowder with water, the cage was destroyed. The citizens ran away.

Soldiers shrieked seeing the dinosaur. Chong struggled to explain the dinosaur’s presence amidst the chaos.

After explaining, Chong and the army advanced to Permskoye. On the march there, disaster struck. Chong stood on something. He looked down, felt excruciating pain, and in three seconds flat he collapsed, feeling the horrendous trap by the Russians. Fangs collected from a cobra were clamped shut on his leg. He could feel the venom seeping into his muscles. Chong pulled out the fangs, put a bandage on it, praying that he wouldn’t die. Someone was in front of him and took his sword out. He howled, “Nobody messes with Alexey Fyodorovich Orlov like you did! Prepare to die!” He swung his sword, about to dismember Chong. All hope was lost. A bullet shot Alexey in the back. Chinese soldiers were behind Alexey. Clutching his back, he prepared to face them. “Run!” Chong got on Hadro and escaped. That snake bite was really getting to him...

Chong woke up, with Hadro wealing. Feeling like he wasn’t going to make it, he scratched “Hadro” on a needle, took his final breath and collapsed.

2024

The Opium Wars ended with a Western victory. Chong failed in his goals, but he left something behind ... “Hey! Look at this! There’s some astonishing words on the dinosaur’s back!

# Change

*Ying Wa Primary School, Wu, Siu Loong – 12*

‘Wake up, David!’ A yell from his living room woke him up from his slumber. But when the reason why he had to wake up so early surfaced in his mind, he reluctantly got off his bed.

Today was the day of the opening of the Zigong Dinosaur Museum exhibit of the discovery of China’s dinosaurs.

Even now, David couldn’t understand why his mother held such a fascination for dinosaurs, often rambling on about how dinosaurs were important to China, when they were only old pieces of rocks. But even though every fiber of his body protested against going to the exhibit, his mom had forced him to.

When they arrived, David’s mother immediately ran off and began snapping pictures furiously, but David merely stood there, looking at the fossils with nothing but contempt.

Eventually, purely out of boredom, David went to an exhibition booth, looking at the bronze plaque that read “Alectrosaurus”. “Dinosaurs were simply creatures that had their chance at survival but failed and were driven toward extinction. Even now, China was only lucky by getting some fossils. What use are dinosaur fossils to us except for being looked at?” He thought. He tried to touch the booth, but when he touched it, the world around him went black.

When he woke up, he felt an uncomfortable tingling sensation in his body, and when he opened his eyes, he found that he was looking at a vast savannah with the golden sun shining high above. When he tried to crane his neck to look out better, he found that everything was surprisingly small, as if the trees below were simply toys. When he reached out his hand to touch one of the trees, he saw that what came into sight was simply a talon! The shock this sight gave him nearly shocked him into faintness.

When he turned around to get a better look at his strange new talon, he heard a swishing sound behind him and saw a long tail sweeping across the ground. At first he thought that maybe a bird with a long tail had come up behind him, but when he spun around to try to look at the bird, he found that the tail was still at his back! Now thoroughly bewildered, he saw a lake a few paces away and the light from the sun reflecting off it.

Immediately, he ran to it and found that his legs were longer and he found that he seemed to run faster than usual. When he arrived at the lake, what reflected off it was a creature that looked nothing like David and did not even have any human characteristics. Instead, what stood in David’s place was a creature that had a slender, lightweight body and long limbs, particularly its hind legs. The creature had a small head with sharp teeth. It took David several seconds to realize that this was his appearance now. And the final realization, that came moments later, impacted David the most.

“What happened to me? No, this must only be a nightmare!”

David realized that he had become the very creature that he thought was “useless” and a waste of space. He had become a dinosaur.

In the middle of his confusion, he vaguely remembered from those boring lessons about dinosaurs that his mother had forced him to take that he was now resembling an alectrosaurus.

Suddenly, he heard a deep voice in his head. “Are you coming to hunt or not?” When David turned around, he saw that five more dinosaurs were standing behind him. Strangely, what came out of the dinosaurs mouths were a series of grunts and roars, but David could clearly understand what they were saying. David was still confused, but the glint in their eyes clearly said that they would not take no for an answer.

As they ran across the great plains of China that seemed to span over the entire world, David felt a feeling of exhilaration that came from the feeling of the wind rushing past them and the speed they were running at. ‘How is this place so big?’ “Of course! It’s China!” And soon they saw a pack of troodonts right in front of them, and immediately they rushed towards them with their jaws open.

When they hit the troodonts, David saw that his fellow dinosaurs had taken the small bird-like creatures by surprise and were devouring them with great bites. Although the sight should have revolted him before, instead now he admired the efficiency of the predators working together and the raw, primal fight for survival unfolding in the plains before his eyes.

No sooner than he had thought this, suddenly he felt that his body was suddenly growing smaller and was morphing into a human shape. All of a sudden, the world around him began to crack like a mirror and went black.

When he began to regain consciousness, he found that he was still standing before the exhibition booth with the allosaurus model, and he was back to being a human and it was as though nothing had happened.

“David, where are you? Look at these photos I took! Come here!” He thought that it was brilliant that even in here, China, new dinosaur fossils had been found. As David stole a final glance at the model, he knew that even if what he thought had happened just now wasn’t real and was merely a dream, he knew that something had changed in him. Now he appreciated the dinosaur before him, and as he looked at the model for a final time, he found that he no longer looked at it with contempt and skepticism, but with appreciation. He knew that even if nothing had happened from the view of others, something in him had changed.

# Dino Bot

*YK PAO Primary School, Chen, David 陈万亩 – 7*

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Chapter 3

遇到骑着老虎的老神仙

Meet The Old God Riding a Tiger

David: Hello?

The Old God: Hello I'm the Old God that you are looking for. What's your name?

David: Oh, I'm David. How did you know I'm looking for you?

The Old God: I'm The Old God, so I can always know what's going on out there!

David: Waoool! That is awesome superpower!

The Old God: Thanks, do you want to have superpower like me?

David: I sure do if I can.

The Old God: ho, of course!

David: How?

The Old God: Well, I'll grant you a short time superpower.

David: Oh oh oh, what hanppend? What's on my food? Is it cloud? Oh my god, I'm fly in the cloud, on a tiger! I want tell my mom! Super cool!

The Old God: You can't tell anybody about this or I'll not let you see the dinosaurs.

David: OK.

The Old God: Hay, did I say you can't tell anybody?

David: Ya.

The Old God: You tell your mom just now, by your heart.

David: Did I?

The Old God: YOU DID! BE CATEFULL when you lie to me!

David: Ho, ya, I Feel it with my superpower.....

The Old God: Right?!

David: Can you let me finish?

The Old God: Oh, Sorry.

David: Ok

The Old God: So, what is it?

David: GRRRrrr!

The Old God: Okay, I'll let you finish up your sentence.

David: Ok, So that I feel it with the power I have, but my mom will never ever tell anybody.

The Old God: You sure?

David: GRRRrrr!

The Old God: What?

David: I'm not finish.

The Old God: Okay, you can continue.

David:....because I tell her with my power.

The Old God: That's a great idea!

David: Thanks!

The Old God: But I can't do that, I'm not her son.

David: I'll tell her, using my heart(他心通).

The Old God: Great! Let's ride my tiger together.

David: Huray!!

The Old God: Let's go!  
(London Bells stave)

The Old God: David, you like singing, didn't you?

David: Ya.

The Old God: Let me sing a song to you:  
(Secret Mission stave)

David: Wooooo, that was awesome!!

The Old God: Thanks. Now, where do you want to go?

David: Ur....I don't know. Wait, I'm standing on a cloud!

The Old God: Cool, is it?

David: Ya, definitely!

Chapter 4

### 遇到 Mr.羲和 Mrs.嫫 之 女娲补天

#### Meet Mr.羲 and Mrs.嫫 Mrs.嫫 repair the sky

David: Hello.

Old God: David, don't be shy.

Mrs.嫫: Oh, hi David, don't be shy next time when you see my brother.

David: What, you have a brother? Amazing!!! Wait, what's in your basket?

Mrs.嫫: ho, that's some colorful stone, material using for repair the sky.

David: How?when?

Mrs.嫫: Because before you were here, the sky got a hole on it. Rain pouring down, everywhere floods, fire.

David: It's horrible!

Mrs.嫫: Ya, so I felt that I had duty to rescue the dinosaurs from the deep water and fire.

David: And then what?

Mrs.嫫: I planned to take the first step to repair the sky. I fly around the world to find materials that could be used to repair the sky.

David: What materials are you using to repair the sky?

Mrs.嫫: In the end, I decided to choose the five special stones.

David: Which five stones?

Mrs.嫫: Gold (金) ,wood (木) ,water (水) ,fire (火) ,earth (土)

David : wow, how?

Mrs.嫫: I put these colorful stones together, burned them into liquids with divine fire, and then poured these liquids into the hole in the sky. In this way, the colorful stone liquids firmly glued the sky together, and the mission of repair the sky was completed.

David: That a hard work after that.

Mrs.嫫: Ya.



# How does China have So Many Types of Dinosaurs

*YK Pao School, Gong, Nico (Xiamo) – 10*

Once upon a time, at 10000 dinosaur years ago, there was a powerful, old card that can help reproduce more dinosaurs. This special, magical card was secretly kept in a secret room which was underground in China.

The dinosaur president of China— Youthful yeomanly Yutyranus knew that China was weak, because it didn't have a lot of dinosaur villages, so he wanted more dinosaurs to live in China, thus other enemy countries won't fight with China. As a result, he wanted the powerful useful card. After he decided to do that, he put a post that says, "Anyone who dares to go to find the sacred card and give it to me can have jewelries, diamonds, gold coins, and even 40% of my country!"

But a few weeks after, there was still no brave dinosaurs who wanted to try. That was because the mission is super hard. Since China is too gigantic for finding a card. Suddenly, an ambitious, young, Shengzhousaurus orientalis who's called Tristan told the president that he wanted to take this mission.

At first, he got a flying broom which can let he look for the card faster by sending him anywhere. Next, he took a master key along with him, when he found a door, he can open it without being locked outside. At last, he started the dangerous, mysterious journey. He went to everywhere to search for the hidden room for the card, like the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Himalaya mountains etc. But angrily, Tristan didn't find it even 10 years later!

Surprisingly, he found it under an old, high cedar tree in Liaoning.

As soon as he went in, the clever Tristan saw a door made of beautiful, shiny, red wood. He opened it and saw a Sinotyrannus Kazuoensis explorer trapped by vines that can capture creatures. Tristan knew this type of ugly, smelly plant around the room, so he told the explorer what to do, "Relax, or it will be tighter. " Then he sat on the vine, as if he was sitting on a sofa. They both relax and then, "Ah!" They're falling down the room, after a few seconds, "Bump!" The two dinosaurs landed in a darkness.

Fortunately, the explorer (who's called Theo and was finding gold) had a torch, so they saw a terrible, miserable monster with bad Dilong's head by the light. "Roar!" The voice was frightening. "Run away!" Tristan shouted. They run and they run... "Help me!" Theo was captured by the hideous monster. Meanwhile, Tristan leaped onto the flying broom, he flied to the monster and grabbed Theo's "hand", they flew and flew, and finally they found a bamboo door. Carefully, they opened it and gasped. There was a chessboard, both pieces were as enormous as a T-rex. They were one team. They need to play the game by pushing stone-made heavy chess pieces, and they needed to play with an old T-rex, who was the keeper of the chessboard. At last, Tristan and Theo won, because they were quick at moving pieces. As a result, the keeper run out of time.

" Wush!" Suddenly, a strange, bizarre wind blew them to a maze. There they saw lot of ways to go in, they tried a lot of ways. But just can't find the card anywhere. Finally, they founded it, there was a hard, colorful door made of porcelain. Quietly they open the door, and there laid the important card surrounded by gold in Blue-and white porcelain vases.

After the card was found and given to the president, Theo got all the gold, and Tristan got the promised 40% land of China.

100 dinosaur years later, China was stronger and there were much more types of dinosaurs in Jehol, like Sinosauropteryx prima, Sinocallopteryx gigas, Tyrannouroidea, Sinotyrannus kazuoensis...

# New Tales of China's Dinosaur

*YK Pao School, Hong, Annabelle – 10*

Bo, a sprightly elementary school lad, was the very epitome of boundless enthusiasm. His eyes, twin orbs that perpetually glimmered with a dinosaur-sized fervor, seemed to hold within them the mysteries of prehistoric epochs. In fact, he was like a walking, talking encyclopedia of all things ancient and scaly. Thus, when his school announced a trip to the local dinosaur museum, Bo was practically vibrating with excitement, determined not to let this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity slip through his fingers.

As Bo tentatively stepped through the imposing entrance of the museum, a hushed gasp escaped his lips. They lined the walls and display cases like silent storytellers, each whispering tales of epochs long past. With slow, deliberate steps, Bo meandered through the exhibition hall, and it was as if he had unwittingly stepped through a magical time portal. His gaze was irresistibly locked onto the gigantic skeletons that towered overhead like ancient sentinels, their bones creaking and groaning softly, as if divulging secrets they had guarded for eons.

Suddenly, a low, ominous rumbling filled the air, like the growl of a slumbering behemoth awakening. Bo froze in his tracks as, right before his eyes, one of the fearsome T-Rex skeletons began to shudder and crackle. Before he could even blink, the once inanimate bones seemed to knit together, and the colossal dinosaur sprang to life, its every movement accompanied by a thunderous roar that shook the very foundations of the museum. Through a haze of disbelief, Bo realized he could hear the dinosaur's thoughts, as if it were speaking directly into his mind.

Panic surged through Bo like a wildfire. His heart pounded like a jackhammer, threatening to burst right out of his chest, and his hands instinctively clutched at the dinosaur's now very real, and rough, skin. Whirling around, he searched frantically for his teacher and classmates, his voice rising in a terrified shriek, "Teacher! Why can I hear the dinosaur talking? What's happening?" But as his eyes darted around the now chaotic hall, he saw his classmates and teacher frozen in place, their expressions a comical mix of shock and confusion, mouths agape like fish out of water. It was as if time had stopped for everyone but him.

In the blink of an eye, the ground beneath Bo's feet began to tremble violently, as if the earth itself was convulsing in protest. The world around him blurred into a swirling vortex of darkness, and he reached out blindly, his hands grasping at nothing but empty air. With a final, ear-splitting roar, Bo felt himself being yanked forward, hurtling through a void where all sense of direction was lost.

When he finally landed, Bo's eyes snapped open to find himself face-to-face with the gargantuan Bocus. The dinosaur's scales glistened like armor under a harsh sun, each one as big as a dinner plate. Its teeth, long and razor-sharp, were like rows of glistening daggers, and its eyes burned with an otherworldly intensity. Bo's knees buckled, and he stumbled backward, his feet tangling in the underbrush. Beads of cold sweat erupted on his forehead like a sudden rain shower, trickling down his face and stinging his eyes. His breath came in ragged gasps, as if he had just run a marathon, and his body trembled uncontrollably, like a leaf in a hurricane. But Bocus, in a display that was as unexpected as it was fascinating, slowly turned its massive head, and in a voice that was surprisingly gentle, like a soft breeze rustling through the trees, it began to speak...

"Don't be scared, little friend. I mean you no harm."

Bo stammered, "Wh – where am I? Why can I understand you?"

Bocus let out a low chuckle. "You've stumbled upon a time-traveling adventure, Bo. I'm a time traveler, Bocus and you're coming with me to meet some of my dinosaur pals."

With that, Bocus took off, running at a speed that made Bo's stomach flip. They arrived in the Jurassic Period, and Bo's eyes widened at the sight of a Stegosaurus munching on some ferns. The Stegosaurus, which Bocus called Spike, had a friendly demeanor. It waddled over, its plates glistening in the sunlight. "Welcome, strangers!" Spike bellowed. Bo learned that Spike was a bit of a slowpoke but incredibly kind-hearted.

Next, they met a Pteranodon named Skye. She soared gracefully above them, her wingspan casting a large shadow. Skye was a curious and adventurous spirit. "Come on, join me in the sky!" she called down to Bo.

Bocus then showed Bo how dinosaurs lived. He told him that some dinosaurs, like the Velociraptors, were highly intelligent and hunted in packs. They had sharp claws and could communicate with each other in complex ways. "Even though they were small compared to me, they were fierce predators," Bocus said. Bo listened intently, soaking up all the information.

"Our big family lived during the Mesozoic era, spanning over 180 million years," claimed Bocus.

"Wow! We've only discovered half of the long historical river!" Bo screamed out with excitement.

As the big hunter, it is time for lunch, but Bocus doesn't seem hungry today, he shook his head and fumed with anger, "Those damn creature from ancient Greece call us what is known for 'terrible lizards!'"

GRRRRRR."

"Well, in modern day world, where technology is fully developed, scient..." Bo exclaimed.

"Sorry for interrupting you, but I am firmly curious, well I meant very curious, to get to know what is the word technology!" The big guy shouted with eyes full of excitement, winking.

"It's a long story, whatever, our scientists have divided you into two main groups: Saurischia and Ornithischia, to be honest I also don't know what these mean, Scientists estimate that there were over 1,000 different species of non-avian dinosaurs and over 500 distinct genera. Scientists estimate that there were over 1,000 different species of non-avian dinosaurs and over 500 distinct genera!"

As time flew over like sand, they became best friends, Bo had forgotten where he was from, and Bocus has forgotten his potent. One by one, the popular science facts that any fans would love to know flew into Bo's ears and stayed in his head, and he had no idea where he was. He was so happy that he was about to fly up, and he saw his idol! Where is he? Is he still alive? What exactly is in front of me? After what felt like an eternity of exploration, Bo felt a strange tug, his head felt what like 2000 years of Exquisite Pain. Suddenly, he found himself sitting on the floor in the museum, right where he started. His teacher and classmates were looking at an exhibit, completely unaware of his adventure. But Bo was different now. He couldn't wait to share what he had learned.

# Chinese Dinosaurs

*YK Pao School, Hu, Michael (Yizhen 胡一臻) – 10*

It all started as doctor Remery–Huang’s prepare adventure, he just got invited by the CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy, an academy that was the largest and best in the 36 centuries in Beijing.

Doctor Remery is a clever humble man, he just turned 27 years old, he likes so much about dinosaurs that he even thinks of them in a test of mental!

There is one and only thing Dr. Remery hate, that people found things quicker than him. So, when he receives the phone call of the CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy’s call and had a reply like, “Hello Doctor Remery–Huang, we want to invite you to Beijing to look at a Dinosaur ‘pool’ we have just discovered” he was angry.

A dinosaur pool is a gang of dinosaurs (real ones) gathered in a certain place.

Doctor Remery–Huang was now preparing for the travel, he placed a book of various kinds of dinosaur, an Apple Watch that he can check time, and last, a photo taking camera.

That photo taking camera is a camera that Doctor Remery’s friend, Doctor Tyshawn–Hutchinson’s. Tyshawn–Hutchinson is doctor that likes to travel to Beijing and now lived in San–Antonio, in America.

Doc Remery is now driving his Mercedes Benz car to the airport, where he has been for several times since he was a kid. To read the message on his air card that shows he will be going to board on a plane numbered, NTC449 air 345, this is the CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy’s plane.

3 hours later, doctor Remery is now able to go to the CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy, he called a car and told the driver that where he would go.

It is already half past 4, he finally sees a circled building, there was a sign that shows 6 big words, CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy.

When he get of the car, he heard a man announcing, “Doctor Remery if I am correct, I am your guide Tokayama to the CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy, I will simply show you the Dino ‘pool’.”

Doctor Remery was really pleased to see the ‘pool’ he followed Tokayama to an entry level office, there was another sign, NO WAY U CAN TELL OTHER PEOPLES ABOUT INSIDE THIS AND NOT WHAT FOR4!

Tokayama seemed to know something, but he did not say in directly but point at the sign.

When the guide opened a door, Doctor Remery gasped, he first wanted to take out his camera but then notice he cannot.

Inside, there were hundreds and thousands of different dinosaurs' species.

Some are fighting, some are napping, or even some are swimming. Just in fact, there are too many dinosaurs you can know.

Doctor Remery seems to feel that he wants to take the picture, he saw his chance, Tokayama is feeding a baby T–Rex, Remery suddenly took out his camera and grab the chance/take the photos.

He knows what the CHN Dinosaur Foundation new 345 academy wants to do, hide the secret, he run to find the door he came from, and he did, he called a car and go right back to the Airport.

Now why CHN has dinosaurs is because of Doctor Remery’s found of the secret, the people all call it, Remery found.

# The Tremendous Change of the Dinosaur

*YK Pao School, Liu, Dora – 10*

The population of something's amount.

The things that have sounds like bound pound.

These poor things that have ruled the earth before.

They were never able to see the sun again.

They were the dinosaurs.

They were at least three meters tall with a determined look in their eyes, some are the kind, gentle herbivores and some are omnivores, that can even eat anything, some like the T-rex own the amazing powers of animals, they are carnivores. Now, all my readers, let's go back to Jurassic Park and Let's start by learning about the habits of dinosaurs and then look at how those endangered species went extinct. Hold onto the bar! Wufoo.... Let's go!

Where are we now? I thought that we were traveling through the temporal tunnel, and I accidentally moved the hand bar, and the Time Machine has unexpectedly shut down .... Never mind the effect, let's just find the solution. The Time Machine is broken, and we need to go back to the Jurassic Park. Hey! Who bit me! Also, what the heck is that sticky stuff on my face? Wait, wait, am I dreaming? This, this is in the Jurassic Park! So, oh my! The one that's licking me is the a, a, a, a dinosaur! It's gluey and sticky and glumly and stinky! I open a little of my eye, it is a, wait, the dinosaur has five fingers and no teeth Let me use the brain waves to search and find out that dinosaurs were so advanced at this time that they didn't have to walk or eat, they just needed brain waves and imagination to survive, and some AIs would help them through any difficulties. The Dino's were smarter than Einstein, they even know how to use AI to make their own better! Hey, they're not an intelligence creature, why could they be so good at this stuff! Wait I'm a little dizzy.....

Hi everybody I am a Paleontologists study dinosaur fossil. They carefully dig up bones in places all over the world. By putting the bones together, they can figure out what these huge prehistoric animals looked like. These dinosaurs lived millions of years before humans.

We learn about how dinosaurs behaved from their footprints and bone shapes. Scientists also look at the environment where the dinosaurs lived. This helps them guess if dinosaurs hunted in groups, traveled long distances, or took care of their young.

During the Mesozoic Era, which had the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous periods, dinosaurs were everywhere on land. They became many different kinds. Some were plant – eating dinosaurs with long necks for reaching leaves. Others were meat – eating dinosaurs that were fast and good at catching other animals.

These are all the information that I've checked on my own intelligence brain wave. Readers, have you learnt this before.

Hey, don't step on me, the kind one that's nearly stepping on me is the longest – necked, tallest and heaviest herbivorous dinosaur that's called Brachiosaurus. The Brachiosaurus was gigantic, it had a long neck for eating more things from the top of a tree. It could reach about 26 meters in length, with its neck nearly 6 meters long. It could use its long neck to reach leaves high up. Its weight ranged from 33 tons to 88 tons, that's likely 50 elephants sitting on a seesaw that's equal with a Brachiosaurus! Making it one of the most massive dinosaurs on land at that time.

What is the howling sound in the background of the sky? Mabel it is a meteor that's going right into that Brachiosaurus, hey be careful! I just saw the flew into the head of Brachi and a black hole just went eating the meteor! This doesn't come from to philosophical discussion of all! This won't be real. But it is real. Too real. To NOT real. Why would the Dino's have many superpowers that humans can't even have? Then my Artificial Intelligence had finish fixing the issue of the Time Machine. Reluctantly, I took my seat on the time machine and returned to reality. You may not think it is possible, but you must not dour me; a supercalifragilistic Paleontologists. See you next year, everyone! Hope you have met Einstein with the Time Machine, bye!

# The Magical Journey at a Dinosaur Museum of the Future

*YK Pao School, Yang, Katy – 10*

“The dinosaurs lived during the Mesozoic Era, which is divided into three periods: the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous.” “Not history class again. I’m so tired of it,” mumbled Jad, who was in his least favorite class, listening to Mr. Williams, the history teacher. Jad has a sister, called Jenny. They both felt sleepy at their history class. “Also, please read the history books that I left on your desks,” announced Mr. Williams, “I’ll set up the time!”. “Ahhh,” Jenny yawned as she stretched her arms, gradually leaned forward, and ended up drifting off to sleep right on top of the book. Suddenly, everything felt like it was whirling around.

Jad and Jenny were drawn by the “Book of Dinosaurs”! After feeling dizzy and disoriented, Jad regained consciousness. He tapped Jenny, who murmured: “where am I?” Then, he scanned the surroundings: wax models of various kinds of dinosaurs, beautiful paintings... Jenny finally realized where they were — a museum! Afterwards, they saw a huge dinosaur, and the magical thing was, when they stood in front of that model, they could see the dinosaur hunting in the background, and words explaining the scene floating at the front. It turns out that the dinosaur was Zhucheng Tyrannosaurus, the biggest carnivorous dinosaur found in China. It was discovered in Zhucheng, Shandong, hometown of various dinosaur fossils. Zhucheng Tyrannosaurus has huge teeth as long as around 15 centimeters! And they also have stubby necks, strong bodies, huge 3-fingered back feet, and small front feet. Jad and Jenny were surprised because the Zhucheng Tyrannosauruses are huge! They are 11 meters long. When they stand up, they are 4.1 meters high and 6 tons heavy. Zhucheng Tyrannosaurus’s eyes can both look at the front at the same time, and have excellent sight & a sense of smell that can smell thousands of meters away. They also have a HUGE mouth, sharp teeth that can easily bite through skin & bones, eat big dinosaurs (such as Zhucheng huge dinosaurs, Chinese horned dinosaurs, and Shandong dinosaurs).

Then a robot with black clothes moved over here. “Hello, I’m the curator of this Dinosaur Museum of the future. You are from the past & traveled here by a book. Let me tell you more about Zhucheng Tyrannosauruses. If you only look at them on the outside, they are similar to Tyrannosaurus rex because they are in the tyrannosauridae’s big family. But if you ask if they have evolutionary relationships, the answer is no. Tarbosaurus that were in Asia (Asia Tarbosaurus) have the closest kinship with Zhucheng Tyrannosauruses. They all have the same common ancestor, and their ancestors are all from North America.” “Wow, thank you for telling us these. We are looking forward to looking at other dinosaurs!”

Next, Jad & Jenny went in front of a dinosaur which has a long neck and tail, relatively small body with limbs that look strong. The floating words told them that kinds of dinosaurs are six to nine meters long, called Lufengosaurus. They are around 2 tons and the strong limbs are for support and walking. Also, they are herbivorous, the first dinosaur found in China. When Jad and Jenny were about to ask the robot curator about the Lufengosaurus, they felt the world whirling again, and they felt dazzling—they’ve went back to history class!

But now, Jad & Jenny didn’t feel like sleeping; they felt like listening & reading during history class!

# Dinosaur and the Dragon

*YK Pao School, Zhai, Grace – 10*

The clock turned to twelve o'clock; another crazy, usual party started at the Dinosaur Fossils Museum. No one knew what happened at night in the museum, only dinosaurs knew. "Clink! Clink!" The dinosaur bones reassembled by themselves, heads to necks, necks to bodies. It seemed like every dinosaur was searching for their body parts. Now, if you looked at the dinosaur crowd, the first you'd see is the T-rex. Even to dinosaurs, T-rex's body was a hill to them, consequently, T-rex became their leader. One night, as usual, T-rex's bones reassembled by themselves, but his friends (the other dinosaurs) were yet to come. At first, he sat there patiently and waited for his friends. After one night, he was annoyed. He roared, "Wake up! I order you to! You must take my order, because I am the leader!" Silence answered him, darkness answered him, but only his friends didn't answer him.

"Boom!" A strange, loud sound scared the T-rex. He asked, "Who's there?" As he turned his body to look at what happened, he saw a huge, dark hole appear in the night sky. He was scared but also curious. Finally, curiosity won over his fear. Afraid and curious, T-rex slowly walked to the hole; he felt like every step he took was like walking on knives. Five meters, four meters, three meters, he slowly walked toward the hole. Ahhhh... He saw a different world. Thousands of strange, unusual animals appeared in his eyes; for example, a creature that had the head of a dragon and the body of a horse. Suddenly, he heard the sound of a baby crying, "Waaaaah," but actually, it was a strange animal that looked like a bird or a leopard. "This world is so amazing! I don't want to leave now!" he gasped. "How dare you appear in my world, you monster!" A weird creature roared. "I am the Dragon, the leader of the legend world of China, who are you? Invader." "I am T-rex, the leader of dinosaurs, and I don't want to appear in your crazy, terrible world." T-rex furiously roared back to the dragon. "Kaboom," the bodies of the two creatures bumped into each other. The dragon spouted fire on T-rex's body, but T-rex's skin was hard enough for the flaming temperature. T-rex opened his huge mouth; his teeth reflected silver lights in the sunshine, shiny but scary. They fought for hours, for days, for months; they were both tired, but they didn't want to admit it.

Finally, the T-rex said to the dragon, "Stop! You win, I will go back." The dragon responded, "Alright, I'll find the time tunnel (the hole) for you." After one night, they found the tunnel. The dragon said, "I'm sorry for calling you an invader." The T-rex answered, "It's okay, even dinosaurs make mistakes. You are welcome to come again, and also your friends."

The T-rex went back to the museum and shared the story of the legend world with his friends. And other dinosaurs visited the legend world too, but only when the hole appeared. Dinosaurs and mythical beasts became friends forever.



# Dinosaurs in the Future

*YK Pao School, Zhou 周, Jesse 子祺 – 10*

If you woke up today, and found yourself face to face with a gigantic mamenchisaurus, what would you do? China's paleontologists had found thousands of dinosaurs, and it is possible that we can someday make dinosaurs come back to life. Therefore, in this essay, I would share with you what it would feel like to spend time with dinosaurs.

Our friend here is called Tom. He hates dinosaurs. But most unfortunately, he lives in the future, where dinosaurs share the towns with humans. In the morning, Tom woke up and found a mamenchisaurus peeking its small head through his window and trying to graze on his plants. Tom looked mamenchisaurus with great dislike and dressed himself and went to eat breakfast. When Tom was halfway through his second piece of toast, an archaeopteryx flew through his window, scooped down, and took away the piece of toast. But no time to make a new piece! Tom took his backpack and went downstairs for the school bus.

Where is the school bus? The road is completely deserted except for some small dinosaurs scurrying around and chewing rotten food from dustbins. But quite suddenly, a great shadow scooped down from the clear, blue, cloudless sky and “Thump”! Like a small airplane, a humongous pterosaur landed in front of Tom with his friends John and Mathew sitting on it. “Come on! We are almost late for school!”, shouted John. Tom clambered up the enormous beast's scaly, metallic back and it took off! Faster than any airplane, with the air roaring in Tom's ears, they and the beast soared towards their school, the city unfurling below them like a grey and green map.

At last, with an unpleasant jolt of the stomach, the pterosaur began to descend. Finally, it touches the solid ground with a soft thump, and began walking to the stegosauruses, T-rexes and the triceratops, which are all school buses.

The first class is math class. While the teacher is talking about why  $a+(b+c)=(a+b)+c$ , there came deafening roar outside and a loud “CRASH!”, sending the archaeopteryxes resting on the trees fluttering into the air. One of the T-rexes is trying to break into a nearby meat market. But the crashes stopped as suddenly as it had come, it was obvious that the T-rex had not managed successfully to break through the market's protection.

The rest of the morning went by quite normally and now it is lunchtime. Tom added a plateful of steak since he is so very hungry and that there is PE class this afternoon. Just as Tom was making his way to his usual seat between John and Mathew, a deinonychus came scurrying around a corner and with surprising speed, took Tom's steak and ran away as fast as it could. “Hey! Come back!”, shouted Tom, chasing after the deinonychus. But it was clear that the deinonychus was not going to hand over a delicious meal. Tom sat down angrily, staring down at the green, leafy lettuce. Luckily, John gave Tom some steak since he is in his words, never hungry.

It is now PE class. Tom's PE teacher, Mr. Duncan Issac Nathan Orwell, or Mr. Dino is a funny man. He always makes students compete with dinosaurs. Today, he challenges Tom and his classmates to outrun an ornithomimid. Mathew, who is the best at PE in the whole class, tied with the ornithomimid, which means that no one succeeded in winning the ornithomimid.

The next and last class of the day is paleontology, Tom's favorite class because they only have to make contact with dead dinosaurs. Mr. Yuri, a well-known paleontologist and their teacher, allows the whole class to dig freely today. Tom was the luckiest student in his class. The moment his shovel hit the ground there came a strange “clunk”, Tom immediately began to investigate, and found out that there was a whole, well preserved yangchuanosaurus skull.

The bell rang. Tom packed his stuff and climbed onto the broad and scaly back of a real yangchuanosaurus, but two big, muscular sixth grade students came speeding out of an empty classroom pulled Tom off the dinosaur, grabbed him, and hurtled into the building again. “What are you doing? What on earth do you think you are doing?!” Tom shouted desperately like a drowning man, but the sixth years are still pulling him and the only teacher in sight was talking to a student. Suddenly, Tom felt his feet slam into solid ground, and one of the sixth years said: “Give it to me.” “Whaa...t? GGii...ve you whaaat?” Tom was so frightened that he wasn't even knowing what to say. He closed his eyes, trying to convince himself that this is only a dream, but his eyes flew open as he felt the rattling breath of the other sixth year on his face: “The skull.” But even before Tom reached his bag to prevent the sixth

years grabbing it, a drip of slimy and disgusting water landed on Tom's shoulder and began trickling down his back. A yangchuanosaurs, a real yangchuanosaurs, even bigger than Tom's "school bus", was standing in front of them. They screamed and ran, Tom was definitely not the fastest, and most unfortunately, he tripped over his shoelaces, fell down, knew all was gone, and fell into blackness, down, down, down...

When Tom woke up, he was in the hospital wing. He saw the other two sixth years, they both had tooth marks around their legs. "Seems like that dinosaur can recognize good people and bad people. After all, maybe dinosaurs are not that bad after all," thought Tom. After that, Tom completely changed his mind about dinosaurs.

This is a crazy story, isn't it? This is a prologue of what would happen if dinosaurs came back to life. Therefore, China's paleontologists and scientists are working together to make residents able to adore and learn about these tall and mighty beasts safely throughout their daily lives.