

# Winning Entries



# HONG KONG YOUNG WRITER OF THE YEAR

## Fiction – Group 4 Winner

### Flight of Yi Qi

*Chinese International School, Zhou, Hanyi – 15*

The first time *Yi Qi* leapt from the canopy, the air was still and heavy, clinging to its feathers like damp silk. Beneath the trees, a shadow prowled — sharp teeth glinting as it moved through the dappled light, searching for its prey. Small and fragile, *Yi Qi* knew it stood no chance against the predator below. Its membranous wings quivered as it crouched on the branch, the rough bark pressing against its talons as it calculated the distance to the next tree.

It was a gamble. The distance seemed impossibly far. Even the closest branch hovered like a distant island across the void. *Yi Qi* hesitated, its talons gripping the bark. But the predator's growl sent a shiver down its spine, and instinct took over. With a final, desperate crouch, it leapt.

Its wings stretched wide, catching a faint breeze. For a moment, *Yi Qi* wavered, its small body teetering in the air, wings trembling as they fought to keep it balanced. The void beneath seemed to pull at it, threatening to drag it down. Then, a whisper of wind steadied the glide, carrying it forward in a halting, jittery descent. *Yi Qi* landed awkwardly, its claws scabbling at the bark, the impact jolting through its fragile frame.

The little creature panted, its chest heaving as it clung to the branch. *Yi Qi* glanced back at the forest floor. The predator's frustrated snarl rose faintly from below. Safe, for now. The leap had been far from graceful, but it had crossed the impossible distance. For a fleeting moment, it had defied gravity.

The forest stretched endlessly in every direction — a maze of trees, shadows, and hidden dangers. *Yi Qi* tilted its head, scanning the canopy. Branches reached out like a network of precarious paths, each leading further into the unknown. The air shimmered, thick with possibility.

*Yi Qi* crouched again, wings trembling with anticipation. This time, the leap was not just an escape. It was a beginning. Above the predator, deeper into the uncharted heights of the canopy, a new world awaited.

#### **119 CE, Tianmo Desert, Han Dynasty**

The desert stretched endlessly before them, its golden dunes rippling under the searing sun. The villagers trudged forward, their footsteps dragging through the loose sand.

They had left their homes weeks ago, fleeing famine and war that had reduced their village to ash and ruin. Water was running low, their food stores nearly gone. The elders' walking sticks sank deeper into the sand with each step, their hands tightening on the worn wood as their pace slowed. Even the strongest among them faltered as the heat beat down mercilessly. Overhead, a lone hawk circled, its shadow a dark smear against the glaring light, unbothered by the struggle below.

Jia, the village head, walked at the front, supporting the elder who leaned heavily on his arm. Though the ache in his legs grew with each step, his pace remained steady. The group moved in silence, the weight of their journey pressing down on them.

As the sun dipped lower, shadows stretched long across the dunes. Near the crest of a rise, a young boy stumbled, his foot striking something buried beneath the sand.

"There's something here," he called, his voice quavering.

Jia turned sharply. "Step back." He hurried to the boy's side and knelt, pressing his hands into the sand. Beneath the grains, something rough and solid resisted. The villagers drew closer, their curiosity overpowering their exhaustion.

Jia carefully scraped away the sand. A flat surface began to emerge, its texture starkly different from the surrounding desert grains. His hands worked faster, revealing a stone etched with a delicate form of a creature: a small, rounded head, its jaw curving downward like a bird mid-song, unnaturally long limbs, and membranous wings covered with feather-like patterns, outstretched and poised for flight.

"A dragon bird," he murmured, barely a whisper.

As the sunlight slipped lower on the horizon, the shimmering lines on the stone seemed to glow faintly in the amber light. The villagers stood frozen, their weariness forgotten, caught in the quiet reverence of the moment. The air around them seemed to hold its breath, heavy with stillness.

A breeze stirred, cool and refreshing, carrying with it the unmistakable scent of rain. Moments later, the first drops fell — soft and scattered, dotting the sand like tiny blessings. Jia tilted his face upward, letting the water roll over his sunburned skin. Around him, the villagers raised their hands to the sky, their parched mouths open to the gift of rain.

Jia lingered, his gaze fixed on the dragon bird's faintly glowing form. Then, with a final glance, he turned and walked on. The villagers followed, their steps pressing firmly into the dampened sand as they disappeared over the crest of the dune.

### **2006, Ottawa, Ontario, Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Conference**

"It's improbable that *Yi Qi* could fly," the voice boomed across the packed conference hall.

Dr. Zhang resisted the urge to roll her eyes. She sat near the front, her fingers drumming against her notebook, the rhythmic tapping barely concealing her mounting frustration. Around her, murmurs rippled through the audience. This annual gathering was meant to celebrate breakthroughs in understanding prehistoric life, but *Yi Qi* had become a battleground. With only a handful of fossilized fragments discovered, *Yi Qi* had become the subject of intense speculation and heated debate.

"*Yi Qi* lacks the musculature for flying," the speaker continued, his pointer tracing the largely speculative skeletal reconstruction projected on the massive screen behind him. "The attachment points for flight muscles are simply too weak." He paused, his tone turning dismissive. "*Yi Qi* simply doesn't fit into what we know about the evolution of flight in theropods."

Dr. Zhang leaned forward, her pen hovering over her notebook. The speaker's arrogant tone grated at her — how could such a unique evolutionary adaptation from over 160 million years ago be dismissed so easily? She glanced at her colleagues, noting the furrowed brows and the faint, skeptical smiles. Paleontology thrived on debate, but at times, it seemed more eager to dismiss the unfamiliar than to embrace it.

“I beg to differ,” she called out, standing.

The room quieted. Hundreds of eyes turned toward her. Dr. Zhang took a deep breath, steadying her voice. “Yes, its adaptations for gliding might seem inefficient compared to the specialized wings of pterosaurs. But that doesn't mean it couldn't fly. Look at the wrist structures — these elongated rods suggest that *Yi Qi* had wings.”

She gestured toward the image of the wrist bones on the screen. “*Yi Qi*'s membranous wings represent an entirely different solution to the challenge of taking to the air — one we haven't seen before in theropods. Evolution is a series of experiments, and *Yi Qi* shows us the diversity of solutions nature attempted.”

“We study evolution not for its certainties but for its exceptions,” she continued, “*Yi Qi* may not fit neatly into our existing categories, but that's precisely why it matters.”

For a moment, the room held its collective breath. Then came a ripple of murmurs. Dr. Zhang sat down, her heart pounding as the speaker resumed, his voice less assertive than before.

That evening, in the quiet of her hotel room, Dr. Zhang sat by a small desk where a sketch of *Yi Qi*'s partial remains lay beside a stack of notes from the day's sessions. She traced the lines of the sketch with her pen, the faint drag of ink on paper grounding her thoughts.

The fragments they had were incomplete, and they didn't fit neatly into the patterns scientists liked to see. But then, nature rarely worked in straight lines.

She stared at the sketch, her pen hovering as if to add a note but stopping short. The questions lingered, unspoken. How did it move? Was it more than a glide? What had it seen in the dense forests of the Jurassic?

Dr. Zhang closed her notebook and set it aside. She gazed out at the distant horizon, her reflection faint in the glass. Somewhere, in the depths of stone and time, the answers waited.

For now, she thought, the questions were enough.

### **2007, Mutoudeng Town, Qinglong County, Hebei**

The wind dragged across the fields as Wei drove his spade into the hard-packed soil. Digging was part of his life — repairing walls, planting crops, and occasionally uncovering fossils buried beneath the earth.

This part of the countryside had always been rich with such treasures. The hills nearby, carved by time and wind, revealed layers of history. Fossil buyers from the city often roamed the area, snapping up whatever fragments farmers could find. Wei had sold a few himself. It was extra money, enough to buy a sack of grain.

The spade struck something solid. Wei paused, crouching to sweep away the loose soil with his hands. At first, it seemed like an ordinary, dirt-caked slab of stone, blending into the surrounding earth. But as he cleared away more soil, an intricate pattern began to emerge: thin arcs, angular and skeletal, forming the outline of something stretching across the stone.

This wasn't just another fossil. It was ... complete. Delicate patterns marked its surface — wings spread outward, preserved in stunning detail. Wei leaned closer, his fingers brushing lightly over the grooves etched into the stone. The lines arched outward like feathered arcs, weathered yet precise, as if carved by time. Even the membranous textures were preserved, capturing a creature frozen in motion.

Wei wondered how much this might be worth. Last year, a villager sold a half-complete jawbone to a buyer from the city and earned a small fortune — enough to renovate his home and buy livestock. Rumor had it the buyer later sold it to a foreign collector for an even higher price. Wei brushed away the remaining soil, wrapped the slab carefully in burlap, and hurried home.

Lying on his bed, Wei stared at the cracks in the ceiling as the distant hum of insects filled the quiet. Across the room, the burlap-wrapped slab rested on the table, its presence heavy. Wei shifted restlessly on the thin mattress, the familiar creak of the wooden frame loud in the stillness.

Selling it made sense. A heater for the winter, better tools for the fields, maybe even a new house — it would likely be more than he could ever hope to earn.

Wei rolled onto his side, his gaze falling to the slab beneath the burlap. Unlike the fragments he'd unearthed before, this one was whole, intricate, preserved in a way that seemed almost deliberate, as if it had been waiting for someone to find it.

He sighed and closed his eyes, but sleep refused to come. The image of the fossil, wings outstretched, locked behind glass in some distant country, its story lost to the land where it had rested for millions of years, lingered in his mind. The night stretched on, silent and unyielding.

The morning market was already stirring as Wei passed through, clutching the burlap tightly. Fossil buyers stood in their usual spots, their sharp eyes scanning the crowd. One of them paused, his gaze lingering on the bundle in Wei's arms. Wei tightened his grip and kept walking.

The bus stop was little more than a dusty clearing at the edge of the village. Wei stood silently, the burlap-wrapped fossil held close to his chest. When the bus finally arrived, he climbed aboard and chose a seat by the window. The vehicle rattled over uneven roads, fields blurring into low, rolling hills. Wei's fingers brushed the burlap now and then, as if to reassure himself it was still there.

Hours later, the bus came to a halt at the Tianyu Museum of Nature. Wei stepped off, adjusting his hold on the bundle. The museum's pale, unadorned walls rose ahead, catching the midday light. For a moment, Wei paused on the stone steps, his hand brushing the burlap's rough surface.

The museum doors stood heavy and still. Drawing a deep breath, Wei pushed the door open and stepped inside.

### **2030, Hong Kong, Paleoart Expo**

The auditorium buzzed with anticipation as Jing stood backstage, her sketchbook tucked under one arm and her notes trembling slightly in her hand. Years of work, countless sketches, and endless simulations had led her here.

Tonight, her creation, *Flight of the Eternal Dragon Bird*, would take the stage — a seamless fusion of art, science, and technology, bringing the enigmatic creature *Yi Qi* to life.

The thought still felt surreal. Not everyone had supported her vision. Some had dismissed it as a gimmick that undermined the rigor of paleontology. Yet Jing believed fossils, seen through new perspectives, could show more than the world had yet seen.

The lights dimmed in the auditorium, and the murmurs of the audience faded to silence. Jing stepped onto the stage, her footsteps steady despite the thrum of her pulse in her ears. She smiled, gesturing to the darkened stage behind her.

“Millions of years ago,” she began, her voice soft but steady, “a small creature gathered the courage and leapt from its perch, its wings stretching into the unknown. This leap — once etched into stone, buried in time — was uncovered by those who believed its story was worth sharing. Tonight, I want to bring that leap back to life.”

At her cue, the stage came alive. The holographic display flickered into existence — a towering tree bathed in moonlight, its branches swaying as if caught in a prehistoric breeze. The soft rustling of leaves and distant calls of Jurassic insects filled the auditorium. The audience held their breath as *Yi Qi* appeared, perched delicately on a branch. Its membranous wings glimmered softly under the simulated moonlight, casting a delicate glow.

As the creature stretched its wings and leapt, the crowd held its breath. *Yi Qi* soared above the stage with tentative grace, its body teetering in the air. Jing watched from the side as the holographic *Yi Qi* circled the stage and then perched back on its glowing branch.

For a moment, the theater was silent, the audience still caught in the spell of the performance. Then, applause erupted. Jing stood center stage, momentarily overwhelmed. She glanced back at the holographic *Yi Qi*, its poised form glowing faintly behind her.

As the applause quieted, a small voice called out from the front row. “Why did *Yi Qi* try to fly if it didn’t know how yet?”

The question caught Jing off guard, and the audience chuckled softly. She tilted her head, the holographic *Yi Qi* glowing faintly behind her.

“That’s a good question,” she said, her voice warm and thoughtful. “Maybe it wasn’t sure what would happen. But sometimes, taking the leap was the only way to discover what was possible.”

The applause swelled again as Jing bowed slowly. She glanced one last time at the glowing *Yi Qi*. The leap that began millions of years ago, she thought, is still in flight.

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*Yi Qi*, discovered in 2007 in Hebei Province, China, is a Late Jurassic dinosaur notable for its primitive feathers and membranous wings — a unique adaptation for flight never seen before in any other dinosaur.

# Fiction – Group 1

## WINNER

# Land of Dinosaurs

*German Swiss International School, Luk, Amelia – 7*

Charlotte and Scarlet were spending their summer holiday in Jiangxi, China. Mum was a ceramic artist and wanted to perfect her craft with a master ceramist in a place called Jingdezhen in Jiangxi. Dad offered to take the girls to Lushan, which was not too far away, while Mum went to her classes. Charlotte loved dinosaurs, so she was excited to visit Lushan's Triassic Spring Waterfall because the Triassic was the name of the period when dinosaurs first appeared on Earth.

Once they got to the waterfall, Dad immediately took out his camera to snap photos. The sisters grew bored and went to explore the waterfall on their own. They got closer and closer and spotted a gap behind the waterfall. Curious, they squeezed through and found themselves in a dark tunnel covered in moss.

When they emerged on the other side, they were astonished by the sight. Under the golden sun, giant dragonflies flew through the air, and dinosaurs of all shapes and sizes roamed an endless field of grass. When they turned around, the tunnel was gone. They had no choice but to move forward.

As they walked through the tall grass, Scarlet felt a feathery animal brush against her leg. "That's a Sinosauropteryx!" shouted Charlotte excitedly. "We must be in the Cretaceous Period!" When they walked past a patch of ferns, they stumbled upon a nest of huge eggs. The mother Triceratops charged at them because she thought they were odd-looking dinosaurs trying to steal her eggs. The sisters ran as fast as they could. Suddenly, the mother Triceratops stamped the ground a few times and turned in another direction.

Just when the sisters thought they were saved, they heard a booming roar. Their hearts skipped a beat, and as they staggered backwards, they saw a ferocious Tyrannosaurus rex standing in front of them. Its serrated teeth shone in the sun's strong rays. "Run!" cried Charlotte. She grabbed Scarlet's arm, and the sisters ran for their lives. When they reached the edge of a cliff, they tripped over a branch and fell down. They thought they were going to die, but they landed on something scaly.

The sisters peeked and saw they had landed on a dinosaur's neck. "This Titanosaurus saved us!" gasped Charlotte. It was as big as three school buses. When they got to the end of its tail, they fell into a pitch-black hole. They kept falling and falling. It felt like an eternity. When they finally landed with a thud, they found themselves back in the tunnel.

# Creative Writing: Fiction – Group 1

## WINNER

### Life Goes On

*Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School, Chan, Shing Wa – 7*

As a paleontologist, I was sent to dig up dinosaur fossils in Liaoning, the well-known epicentre of fossil-hunting since the 1990s. On the first day, I immediately discovered the remains of a huge sinosauropteryx which was buried underground. Initially, I thought this was just an ordinary scientific exploration. However, it turned out to be a unique experience for me due to a terrifying but touching dream which I had about the dinosaur I dug up.

In my dream, I turned into the dinosaur which lived with his mother peacefully in a primeval forest. The dinosaur had never left his home before, so he has always longed to explore the world on his own.

One day, the little dinosaur got the courage to leave his parents and explore the world. He sneaked into the woods while his parents were looking for food. He was thrilled to see a lot of exotic plants and animals. Unfortunately, danger lurked unexpectedly. The little dinosaur was petrified once he realized fierce pterosaurs were eyeing him.

When the little dinosaur was exhausted from his tiring escape, he saw a lake just right in front. In a flash, he jumped into the lake. However, a volcano nearby erupted and shot lethally hot lava into the sky. Much worse, there was also a strong earthquake. The little dinosaur almost fell into a dark, bottomless chasm as other poor animals did. Fortunately, his mother was able to grab him out of the death trap in the nick of time.

As the volcano burst out more lava, the little dinosaur and his mother had nowhere to go. The only way to escape was to climb up a cliff to reach the mountain top. Therefore, she made a tough decision. She helped her son to climb up a cliff until the hot lava consumed her. The little dinosaur was in dismay when he saw his mother sacrifice herself to save him. Overwhelmed by the grief, the little dinosaur kept calling for his mother with its weak scream.

In all the chaos, someone patted on his shoulder. It turned out to be a peer of his kind. Standing behind was a group of dinosaurs and other animals, mourning the loss of their beloved family members in the disaster too. The little dinosaur realized that he was not alone. He and the homeless animals should move on and stick together to start a new life on behalf of their late family members.

The last thing I saw in my dream was the little dinosaur and his peers embarking on a journey to find a new home. When I woke up in my bed, I felt deeply sorry and depressed about what happened to the little dinosaur. We should cherish those around us while they are still alive before we regret it. Life goes on after the passing of our beloved ones, and we should treasure every moment of our lives.



## Fiction – Group 2 WINNER

# 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.

# Creative Writing: Fiction – Group 2 WINNER

## New Tales of China’s Dinosaurs

*Alliance Primary School Kowloon Tong, Law, Cheuk Wai Paris – 11*

Dr. Li Yan stood nervously under the bright lights of the Beijing auditorium. His palms were damp as he addressed the skeptical scientists. Behind him, the slide projector displayed the fossil of a small dinosaur with long forelimbs, grasping claws suited for precision, an unusually large brain cavity, and primitive tools—sharpened stones discovered alongside the remains.

“This dinosaur,” Li concluded, “may have exhibited mammal-like behaviours, such as tool use and social cooperation. It might have survived the asteroid impact that wiped out most dinosaurs and evolved to adapt to changing conditions.”

Many scientists exchanged incredulous glances. Someone scoffed, “Dinosaurs with tools? That’s absurd!” Sweat beaded on Li’s forehead.

Two years earlier, Li and his team were excavating in Liaoning, a region famous for fossil discoveries. That day, Li and Professor Truman uncovered unusual skeletons.

After brushing away dirt, they found fossils unlike anything they had seen before. Though it resembled a small theropod, its forelimbs were exceptionally long, with clawed digits suited for grasping. The skull’s brain cavity was larger than those of other dinosaurs its size. Nearby, they discovered sharpened stones and rocks marked with wear. Piled stones near a cluster of fossilized eggs suggested the dinosaur had built simple defences.

As the team analyzed the fossils, one more surprising fact emerged. A researcher announced, “Lab results indicate that this dinosaur lived during the late Cretaceous and survived into the early Cenozoic.”

“That means they might have survived the aftermath of the asteroid impact, which is widely believed to have caused the mass extinction of the dinosaurs,” Li Yan said, his eyes lighting up with excitement. “This species was likely herbivorous, as seen from their lack of sharp teeth. During the Ice Age, when conditions became terribly harsh, they would have needed tools to handle tough food — crushing bones for marrow, breaking open nuts, or digging for roots and insects.”

Truman added, “Some dinosaurs, like Velociraptors, hunted in packs, and Protoceratops protected their young. This species may have gone further—building defences for their nests and sharing tools to adapt to their harsh environment.”

But doubts lingered. Could the scientific community ever accept such a groundbreaking claim?

Back in the present, Li attempted to elaborate, but a voice cut him off: “So, are you saying our ancestors were dinosaurs?” The room erupted into laughter. Li clenched his fists, his confidence wavering under the weight of their mockery.

Later that night, back at their office, Truman tried to console him. “Every big discovery faces resistance, Li. Darwin, Galileo—they were all doubted at first.”

Li Yan sighed, “I’ve been fascinated by dinosaurs since I was a child. Even though they went extinct 65 million years ago, I’ve always believed they’re connected to the species we see today. Sometimes, I even wonder if the phoenix in Chinese mythology came from our ancestors’ distant memory of pterosaurs.”

At his countryside home, Li gazed at the majestic phoenix painting on his wall. His grandfather had gifted it to him as a child, saying, “The phoenix rises from the ashes, bringing hope and renewal. I hope it reminds you to always find strength after a setback.” Li closed his eyes, wondering if he could ever rise above the ridicule his team faced.

Out of nowhere, a dazzling, multicolored light flooded the room. Shielding his eyes, Li ran outside. Above him, a magnificent phoenix soared across the sky, its feathers blazing like molten gold. His heart pounded with awe, but in a flash, the light engulfed him.

When he opened his eyes, Li found himself in a frozen, snow-covered landscape. The air was icy cold, and frost clung to the trees. In the distance, the phoenix led him to a cave.

Inside, he gasped at the sight before him: the fossils he had discovered had come to life. Some small, red-feathered dinosaurs were using large stones to fortify their nest. One sharpened a stone, while another used it to crack open frozen fruits.

Li couldn’t believe his eyes—these creatures worked together with remarkable intelligence and creativity.

Li’s pulse quickened, and his breath caught. Their small, lightweight bodies required less energy to survive, making it easier to find food and escape predators. Their longer arms and larger brain cavities—shaped by evolution—allowed them to use tools and solve problems, helping them adapt to their environment. These traits showed the beauty of nature’s ingenuity.

He picked up one of the sharpened stones, turned to the phoenix, and whispered, “Could this species have outlived the extinction? Could they be our distant relatives?”

The phoenix didn’t respond. It spread its wings, and the world around him dissolved into shimmering light.

Li awoke at his desk, his notes scattered beneath him. It had been a dream—or had it? He glanced at the phoenix painting and felt a renewed sense of determination. Perhaps the dream was a message: to believe in his work, even when others doubted him.

He thought of Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, the physicist whose theory of black holes was ridiculed, but later proven correct. “Science is full of unknowns,” Li thought. “I just need to find more evidence.”

Suddenly, Li Yan’s eyes widened in shock. There, on his desk, lay a sharpened stone. He had no memory of bringing any stones home.

Weeks later, the fossils and tools were displayed in a museum. The plaque read: Phoenixsaurus: The Toolmaker. A reconstructed scene of the dinosaurs’ nest and their tools drew crowds of visitors. Some marvelled, while others questioned its authenticity.

Out in the jungle on a new dig, Li looked to the sky and saw vibrant clouds, like the phoenix was watching over him. He mused, “If that asteroid had missed Earth, perhaps dinosaurs would still rule today. What about us? Is humanity destined to face its own extinction?”

Reaching into his pocket, he pulled out the sharpened stone. Had it come from the dream? It seemed to whisper untold stories of the world, a silent reminder to seek truth with unwavering courage.

## Fiction – Group 6 WINNER

# Caesar and Olivia

*St. Paul's College, Lim, Yi Xian Elias – 12*

Once upon a time in a forest, there was a village which was full of dinosaurs. Caesar, a Gandititan Cavocaudatus, was the leader of the village. His mate, Olivia, had a hatchling, called Fred. Under the leadership of Caesar, everyone was living peacefully and safely.

One fateful day, dark clouds filled all over the place. A fierce conflict had risen between their herd and their rival, T-Rex. The T-Rex were known for their sharp teeth, swift attack and their cunning tactics. Caesar knew it was impossible for now to escape, so he armed himself and prepared for the war.

As the war erupted, the ground was trembled with the roaring dinosaurs and the clash of horns. Caesar valiantly fought for his country and his family as the T-Rex was attacking vigorously.

As the war raged on, Olivia sensed that Fred was gone. By following the footsteps, she found that Fred was tied to the tree and guarded by the T-Rex.

“Caesar! We must get Fred to safety!” Olivia shouted with a panicked voice.

“I won’t let that happen,” Caesar replied, showing determination on his face.

But at the same time, Olivia knew that if she wanted to protect her family, she had to make a difficult choice. “You must take back Fred and run!” she insisted. “I will hold them off.”

Although Caesar kept protesting, Olivia had already determined. “I love you both, and I will always protect you. You have to survive!” After Olivia finished her last words, she stood in front of the T-Rex and attracted them to follow her to a cave. At that time, Caesar was in dread and didn’t know what to do. But not a while, he awoke, and untied Fred in a face-paced movement.

On Olivia’s side, she committed self-immolation with the T-Rex. Caesar sighed, “she is a true hero,” his voice filled with sorrow and guilt.

Days passed, Caesar knew that Olivia’s sacrifice had given them a chance to live. Though their family was forever changed, the love and courage she displayed would remain in their hearts.

As Fred grew up, they learned the importance of family, strength, and sacrifice. And in the face of danger, they carried forward the spirit of their brave mother, ensuring that her love would never be forgotten.

# Fiction – Group 7

## WINNER

# Don't Envy, Your Feathers Grow

*Korean International School Springboard, Kwan, Jordan – 18*

On a stormy day in the Thirtieth Century the year of the fox, there was a family of four feathered dinosaurs living in a remote area in Jiangxi, China. Their house was near the lake connecting to the Pacific Ocean, covered as big as a tennis court. It was hard to find their house if they were not there as there were no door signs or street numbers. The family loved to live near the lake because they enjoyed the reflection of the moonlight shining like spotlights on the lake on beautiful nights.

The most giant dinosaur has a 4-meter neck, moving above the lake and searching for food for his daddy to catch. “Daddy, Daddy, there is a salmon swimming in the lake!” the baby brother, Timothy shouted. Shortly after, the daddy dinosaur, Lee, ran like a flying leopard and jumped into the lake to catch the salmon. Although Daddy had purple wings, he never used his wings to fly because he ran thirty times faster than a fox.

There was a turquoise dinosaur with short turquoise hair, who was eating grass with her mother near the lake. She has a purple body with creamy dots. Her name is called Envy. “Mommy, the fresh grass is so yummy!” Envy happily commented. Envy kept eating the fresh grass and walking up the cliff. Mommy dinosaur harvested fresh grass and gave it to the giant Timothy, Envy and Lee. A huge and strong typhoon blew up Daddy the Lee and destroyed their house and grass. “Arrrr...DADDY is in the sky!” Timothy shouted and immediately stretched his long neck up to 8 meters to wrap Daddy the Lee back to the ground. Their home was flooded because of the heavy rain and all the grass and trees were destroyed. They had to start swimming as the pouring rain continued his anger for another month the lake connected to the east coast of China. Timothy has carried his parents on his back and swam with Envy for three months.

They had fish for breakfast and dinner. Mommy had sharp teeth like the tyrannosaurus can cut the bones of the fish. They reached the East China Sea and continued swimming in the North Pacific Ocean. They swam and passed the Mexico Islands. They had so much tuna in the Atlantic Ocean. Timothy started growing bright purple feathers on its legs as well as its arms. Timothy screamed excitedly as lots of tall buildings on top of an island were in front of the family, such as the Empire State Building. The island was surrounded by the Ocean. The Dinosaurs continued climbing the mountains and found the Catskill Mountains. Timothy and Envy started growing more feathers on their legs and arms. Their feathers were shining in the clouds between the dangerous mountains. They helped to build their new home in a mysterious cave.

# Non-Fiction – Group 1 WINNER

## China-saur?

German Swiss International School, Lai, Caspar – 7

No way, of course there is no such thing – but have you heard of China's dinosaurs?

In recent decades palaeontologists have discovered dozens of important fossils in China. From the over 6 metres in length, long-necked, marine *Dinocephalosaurus* to the duck-sized *Fujianvenator Prodigiosus*, there have been a huge variety of discoveries.

### **But what is a fossil?**

A Fossil is the preserved remains of plants and animals; they are formed when a carcass or dead plant is buried in sediment, preserving the skeleton. Over time the sediment is turned into rock, due to heat and pressure. The most common fossils are bones and teeth, however, in general fossils are very rare. Not all fossils are dinosaurs. For example, there are many fossils of Cephalopods such as Ammonites and Arthropods like Trilobites. Some fossils are as big as double decker buses. Some dinosaurs eat meat like T-rex, some eat vegetables like *Dinocephalosaurus*, some eat both like *Deinocheirus*.

### **How do palaeontologists find fossils?**

Palaeontologists dig up fossils by carefully using brushes, forks, spoons, rock hammers, knives, shovels and sometimes pickaxes. Palaeontologists find fossils by using these tools and clues on the ground, such as footprints, swim traces, burrows, dens and trackways.

You could also feel the shape, size, pattern on the ground. They use very tiny and delicate tools like brushes, dental picks and sometimes use water. This is because they have to be careful not to break them. You could also use acid but with lots and lots of patience.

### **What kind of dinosaur fossils have they found then?**

There was a dinosaur fossil found in China. It was a bird-like creature with very long lower legs. This dinosaur's name is *Fujianvenator Prodigiosus* and they lived during the late Jurassic period. Another scientist discovered a fossil of a rainbow-coloured, bird-like dinosaur about the size of a duck. It lived in the Jurassic period which is 161 million years ago; it has been named *Caihong juji*.

One dinosaur called *Mamenchisaurus Sinocanadorum* is 18 metres – that's larger than a double decker bus! It is a sauropod; this is a group of dinosaur species that had long necks and were herbivores. It was found in the northwest of china. They were very intimidating and potentially dangerous because they were enormous, however, like with most herbivores only the trees had to watch out! He was alive in the Late Jurassic era.

For example, around 240 million years ago, a serpent-like reptile named Dinocephalosaurus roamed the earth. The Dinocephalosaurus had a very long neck. Researchers recently described that Dinocephalosaurus is a giant. That dinosaur was found in southern China and was believed to be a marine animal and probably used its long neck to hunt along with its fang-like teeth to catch prey.

The reason why China has a lot of fossils is because of the huge area China covers.



# Creative Writing: Non-Fiction – Group 1 WINNER

## The Land Before Time in China

*Shanghai Singapore International School, Lai, Bi Jun Dash – 9*

Jurassic Park is one of the world's most famous dinosaur movies, and it's also my favorite! Whenever I watched it, it makes me wonder what is it like during the Jurassic times or during millions of years ago? Are the dinosaurs, pterosaurs and plesiosaurs back then stepping on the same land that I am stepping today in China, where I am currently living in?

It made me curious, so I wanted to dig deeper to find out if dinosaurs ever lived in China!

Not surprisingly, China being a large country with varied geology had discovered more than 90 species of prehistoric animals till date. Some of the dinosaurs and pterosaurs discovered are Sinosauropteryx, Yunnanosaurus, Dinocephalosaurus and many more.

One of the smallest dinosaurs in the world was actually found in China. This tiny dinosaur is called Minisauripus, discovered in Gansu province. The five three-toed fossil footprints found was measured to be between only 1cm and 3cm across (even smaller than a chicken's feet which is around 12cm). These footprints are believed to belong to one of the smallest dinosaurs ever.

A long snake-like mythical Chinese dragon was also one of the interesting dinosaur found in China. This dinosaur found was dated back to 240 million years ago from the Triassic period. It was a 16-foot-long aquatic reptile, called Dinocephalosaurus orientalis. It has 32 separate neck vertebrae, an extremely long neck. The fossil of Dinocephalosaurus orientalis has a snake-like appearance and flippers and was found in the Guizhou Province of southern China. This appearance makes people think that it looks like a Chinese dragon. With its long neck and sharp teeth, it is easier for this dinosaur to grab fishes and prevent them from escaping.

Most recently, on just October 17 2024, there was a discovery of a new type of dinosaur egg fossils in east China's Jiangxi Province. This dinosaur egg fossils are merely 29mm in length, the smallest ever found globally. These eggs discovered are dated back to late Cretaceous period, over 80 million years ago. For researchers, this discovery expands the diversity of dinosaur eggs from the Late Cretaceous period, it gives new valuable insights into new possibilities and more species that could exist during that period.

These discoveries are so fascinating, and I believe that China will find even more species in the near future. These new species could be discovered any time soon and even near us, and who knows, we might find amazing fossils that are in action like in a mid-fight or hunting for food. Imagine finding fossils while playing in a field, with the dinosaur's mouth open wide, it will be both a scary but amazing sight. Looking forward to more discoveries! Who knows, one day I might be able to find some fossils with my friends while playing at the school field...

## Non-Fiction – Group 2

### WINNER

# Unearthing the Mysteries of China's Dinosaurs

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Ng, Daryl – 9*

Ever since I was a child, the colossal shadows of dinosaurs have loomed large in my imagination. I would spend hours pouring over picture books, watching documentaries, and piecing together plastic models, dreaming of a world where these magnificent creatures roamed the Earth. My fascination was not just with their size or their fearsome appearance, but with the mysteries they left behind – fossils that whispered secrets of a bygone era.

One ordinary evening, while I was reading my dinosaur encyclopedia, I heard the most amazing news on television. They found dinosaur fossils right here in Hong Kong, the bustling city where I live in! My heart started pounding with excitement. Dinosaurs, the same ones I read about and watched in movies, were actually discovered in the place where I grow up. It was like a dream coming true. Seeing something so ancient and legendary right in our busy city with all its tall skyscrapers and glitzy LED lights – it felt like venturing a real-life adventure story that needed to be shared with everyone.

This discovery sparked my curiosity about China's rich paleontological history. The first fossil was found on a peaceful and balmy day in the 1990s, where a farmer in Liaoning Province was tilting his fields when he stumbled upon the extraordinary fossil. The fossilised remains of a creature that would revolutionise our understanding of dinosaurs – a *Sinosauropteryx*, the first feathered dinosaur discovered that wasn't directly related to birds. This small carnivorous theropod ate small animals, including mammals and lizards. This "China dragon bird" shows that dinosaurs are not just scaly reptiles, but some are also feathered and some can even glide! The fossils from Liaoning have provided crucial insights into the origins of flight.

The remarkable discovery of the *Sinosauropteryx* led to many excavations in Liaoning, leading the discovery of more than 40 species of dinosaurs! Liaoning, with its rich fossil beds, is no doubt a treasure trove for palaeontologists. The region's unique geological conditions have preserved a wide display of prehistoric life. Each fossil unearthed added a piece to the puzzle of Earth's past.

Further discoveries continued to paint a vivid picture of prehistoric China. In the lush landscapes of Jiangxi Province, another groundbreaking discovery was made! Palaeontologists discovered a new species of Titanosaur, a huge herbivorous dinosaur that roamed the Earth a few million years ago. These gentle giants with their long necks and large bodies offer a glimpse into the diverse life of China's dinosaurs. The Jiangxi Titanosaur is an example of the hidden wonders within China's fossil sites.

Among these discoveries, one of the most astonishing finds was the Yi Qi found in Hebei Province. Its name means “strange wing” in Chinese, which hints at its unique features. This small, pigeon-sized dinosaur lived around 160 million years ago during the Jurassic period. What makes the Yi Qi particularly intriguing is its bat-like wings, supported by a long bony rod extending from its wrist. This extraordinary creature showcased an example of convergent evolution, where the Yi Qi evolved wings similar to those of bats and flying squirrels, despite being a dinosaur. The implications of this discovery are profound, as it expands our understanding of the diversity of dinosaur adaptations and evolutionary paths. The Yi Qi’s unique wing structure suggests that dinosaurs explored various modes of flight long before the emergence of birds, highlighting the complexity of their evolutionary history.

Recently, Hong Kong has also made significant dinosaur discoveries. About 30 rocks containing dinosaur fossils were found on Port Island in the Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark. These fossils, believed to date back to the Cretaceous period, were unearthed by experts from the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The collaboration between Hong Kong and Mainland Chinese experts, as well as international researchers, fosters a spirit of cooperation and knowledge-sharing. This can lead to more comprehensive and globally relevant scientific studies.

The process of uncovering these ancient secrets is as fascinating as the discoveries themselves! Palaeontologists carefully dig sites, using modern tools and techniques to reveal the stories that the fossils tell. Technologies like CT scans and 3D printing allow scientists to study the fossils, piecing together the unfinished pieces of the puzzle of the lives of ancient creatures that roamed the Earth 65 million years ago. The sheer number of fossils and new species discoveries showcases the advancements in Chinese dinosaur research.

China’s fossil-rich regions hold countless untold stories, waiting to be discovered. As paleontologists continue to explore these areas, each new fossil unearthed enriches our knowledge of prehistoric life and inspires future generations. The world of dinosaurs is enormous and full of wonders, and the tale of China’s dinosaurs is far from over. With every new discovery, we gain a deeper understanding of the amazing diversity of life that once thrived on our planet. As we look to the future, the excitement of uncovering what lies buried beneath the soil continues to captivate and inspire us. Let’s stay curious and keep learning – who knows what incredible discoveries we might be part of in the future!

# Creative Writing: Non-Fiction – Group 2 WINNER

## New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Yaumati Catholic Primary School (Hoi Wang Road), Tang, Jin Hei Jace – 11*

### **The Paleontological Revolution in Jiangxi**

In the remote mountains of southern China, where lush valleys intertwine with winding rivers, a paleontological revolution is taking center stage. While many regions around the world have been extensively explored, the hidden valleys of Jiangxi remain largely uncharted, concealing the secrets of a distant past. The recent discovery of a new dinosaur species, *Jiangxiaurus rex*, has set the scientific community abuzz with anticipation and opportunity.

In the summer of 2013, a dedicated team of paleontologists embarked on an ambitious mission to uncover Jiangxi's geological treasures. Led by Dr. Mei Chen, a renowned paleontologist with a passion for uncovering ancient mysteries, the team comprised geologists, biologists and graduate students eager to make their mark in the world of paleontology. Armed with geological maps and an insatiable curiosity, they combed through fossil-rich deposits nestled within dense forests and steep cliffs.

After weeks of diligent searching under the sweltering sun and amidst the symphony of chirping cicadas, they uncovered a fossilized bone protruding from a rocky outcrop near the *Jiangxiaurus rex* site. The bone was larger than any they had encountered, sparking excitement among the team. As they excavated further, they stumbled on a remarkable find: the remains of a previously unknown theropod.

### **The Discovery of *Kangaraurus rex***

The highlight of their discovery was *Kangaraurus rex*—a dinosaur that redefines our understanding of theropods. This impressive creature, estimated to be around 40 feet long, featured a striking crest atop its head, likely used for display or communication. Its powerful legs hinted at incredible speed, essential for both hunting prey and evading larger predators.

What truly set *Kangaraurus rex* apart were its elaborate, peacock feather-like structures, suggesting a fascinating role in mating rituals or rival intimidation. The vibrant colors of these feathers, preserved in the fossil record, painted a picture of a dinosaur that was not just a fearsome predator but also a creature of beauty. Even more intriguing, *Kangaraurus rex* possessed a pouch reminiscent of a kangaroo's, allowing it to carry and nurse its young while remaining agile—a potential game-changer in our understanding of dinosaur behavior.

This discovery adds depth to our understanding of the evolutionary adaptations of dinosaurs in ancient ecosystems. The presence of such a unique theropod in the late Cretaceous Period implies a diverse range of ecological niches, where different species evolved to exploit various resources in their environment.

## **A Vibrant Ecosystem**

The late Cretaceous Period, when *Kangaraurus rex* roamed, was characterized by a vibrant ecosystem. Fossil evidence indicates that Jiangxi was once a lush landscape teeming with life, filled with conifers, ferns and flowering plants that supported a variety of herbivores, which in turn sustained apex predators like *Kangaraurus rex*. Researchers theorize that the interactions among these species crafted a dynamic web of life, shaped by both competition and cooperation.

Alongside *Kangaraurus rex*, the team uncovered fossils of large herbivores such as *Jiangxiaurus* and smaller, nimble dinosaurs that likely served as prey. The fossilized remains of ancient plants revealed a rich habitat, suggesting that the area was once a thriving sanctuary for diverse species. This intricate web of life underscores the importance of ecological balance and diversity, themes that resonate with modern conservation efforts.

## **The Ongoing Adventure**

The saga of *Kangaraurus rex* is just the beginning of this thrilling adventure. As Jiangxi evolves into a pivotal site for paleontological research, it promises to shed light on the intricate world of dinosaurs. Each fossil unearthed serves as a powerful reminder of life's interconnectedness, evolution and the passage of time.

Dr. Kylie Yoyo and her team knew they were on the brink of something monumental. They continued their work, meticulously documenting each find and collaborating with experts worldwide. Their enthusiasm was contagious, attracting attention from universities and research institutions eager to be part of Jiangxi's unfolding story.

The future of paleontological research in Jiangxi is bright. With advancements in technology, such as 3D imaging and molecular analysis, the team is poised to make even more groundbreaking discoveries. Each fossil not only tells a story of the past but also raises new questions about evolution, adaptation and survival.

As the team prepared for their next expedition, a sense of anticipation filled the air. The Jiangxi mountains whispered secrets of the past, and the promise of new discoveries lay just beneath the surface. The journey of discovery has only just begun, and it holds the potential to transform our understanding of the past and enrich the future.

In the heart of Jiangxi, the legacy of *Kangaraurus rex* and its companions continue to inspire awe and wonder. The adventure is far from over, and as each new chapter unfolds, the world watches with bated breath, eager to see what other secrets the ancient earth.

# Non-fiction – Group 6

## WINNER

# Dinosaurs

*Korean International School Springboard, Robin, Asher – 11*

Dinosaurs lived 65 million years until they went extinct when a giant rock crashed into the earth. For today, we are going to talk about stegosaurus which is a type of dinosaur. Stegosaurus swings its heavy tail when one of its enemies is there to steal their eggs.

The paleontologist who first discovered a Stegosaurus fossil on the mud realized that the fossils came from its back like a turtle's shell. Scientists thought that they used to attract mates, similar to Triceratops. Others think the plates protected Stegosaurus from attacking predators or absorbed heat from the sun to help warm the animal.

One early paleontologist believed that Stegosaurus had a second brain in its tail because the expert noticed a cavity like those where the brain would be in its rump.

Stegosaurus lived about 145 million years ago during the Jurassic period

It was the same size of a double decker bus and weighed almost 12,000 pounds. But this enormous animal had a brain that was only slightly even larger than a coconut.

# Poetry – Group 1

## WINNER

### Chinese Dragons

*St. Joseph's Primary School, Cheung, Shun Yin Trustin – 8*

From Dinocephalosaurus limestones  
To Gandititan bones,  
From fossil fuels  
To offshore drills,  
A land of hidden treasures  
Awaiting boundless ventures.

From Triassic claws  
To the Great Wall,  
From gunpowder balls  
To the Qing fall,  
Descendants of the dragon  
Awakened to defend their nation.

From Sinosauropteryx  
To Chang'e-6,  
From dazzling drone shows  
To the three Shenzhou heroes,  
Discoveries looming in the sky  
With ambitions soaring high.

From reptilian evolution  
To the Cultural Revolution,  
From adversity  
To prosperity,  
Oh dragons! You unearthed your powers  
And mesmerized the world with your wonders.

# Creative Writing: Poetry – Group 1 WINNER

## Dinosaurs of China

*Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School, Kwan, Cheuk Him Brian – 7*

In the Ancient lands where mountains grow,  
Dinosaurs roamed long ago.  
From quick little raptors that sprinted by,  
To enormous creatures with heads held high.  
In the core of the earth, fossils buried deep,  
Legends of a time, when the creatures would sleep.  
The mountains and rivers, they witnessed it all,  
As beasts of splendour answered the call.  
The fierce Pterodactyl, wings so bright,  
Flew through the jungle, a fabulous sight.  
While the long-neck Brachiosaurus stood tall,  
With elegance like a dancer, it conquered them all.  
From the desserts of Gale to mountains of snow,  
The tales of dinosaurs still brightly glow.  
In museums today, their bones boldly stand,  
A link to the past in this great, wondrous land.  
So listen to the creatures, both fierce and serene,  
In China's rich history, they've always been keen.  
With each fossil uncovered, a sight we might find,  
Of the age of the dinosaurs, forever lined.



## Poetry – Group 2 WINNER

# Guardians of the Ancient

*The Independent Schools Foundation Academy, Cheung, Chin Yui Trevor – 9*

In eras when dinosaurs ruled the earth,  
Five tales from China's past unearthed,  
From fliers in sky to titans on land,  
the mythical legends etched in sand.

First, the microraptor, the Small Little Thief.  
Graceful and quick, it glided through leaves,  
Four wings at the side, it snatches for its meal,  
Swift like the shadows, its secret to steal.

Sinosauropteryx, the Chinese Lizard Wing,  
With red-brown hues and stripes like king,  
Venomous body, it lurks under the light,  
A predator's last meal, a lizard's final plight.

Sinovenator, the Chinese Hunter,  
Hunts as a team, with force like thunder,  
A master of stealth, stalking its sight,  
Razor claws strike, in the dead of night.

Mamenchisaurus, the Long Necked Giant,  
Strangely built, and science-defiant,  
It reached for the sky, where treetops could not hide,  
It stretches its neck, in glory and pride.

Dilong, the Emperor Dragon,  
With deadly talons that hunts with passion,  
A tiny T-rex with a regal name,  
Its legacy in China, forever in fame.

Guardians of the Ancient, their stories live on,  
Whispers of the fossils, bringing time long gone,  
Roamed across ancient China, their footprints carved in bones,  
An echo of evolution, a symphony of the unknown.

# Creative Writing: Poetry – Group 2 WINNER

## New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School, Gaikwad, Yatika – 10*

In China, quiet and vast,  
Fossils hide from the past.  
In the '90s, a farmer found,  
A feathered dino in the ground.

Sinosauropteryx, the name it bears,  
The "China dragon bird" in layers.  
In Liaoning, more bones appear,  
Forty species, oh so dear.

Pterosaurs flew in the skies,  
Winged reptiles, a great surprise.  
In Jiangxi, a titanosaur's trace,  
New wonders in this ancient place.

With paleontologists eager to explore,  
What stories will these fossils store?  
Excitement grows with each new find,  
The ancient world, a treasure to unwind.

# Poetry – Group 6

## WINNER

# Feathered Sinosauropteryx

*Korean International School Springboard, Lau, Yu Yan Ian – 13*

Feathers in the dust,  
China's past hidden gem,  
Now discovered,  
Life's a great mystery.

# New Tales of China's Dinosaurs

*Korean International School Springboard, Tsui, Yau Yau Claire Summer – 10*

There was once a dinosaur named Gary  
that enjoyed hundreds of ice cream daily.  
He has 6 friends,  
Ababa,  
Zirari,  
Elon,  
Akika,  
Tobios  
and his bestie, best, bestest friend Nicky

Now, Nicky, who was a vegetarian dinosaur.  
hanging out with Gary from time to time;  
Roar Cafe;  
The Turtle Petting Zoos;  
The Glacier Ice (no-cream) shop;  
The Water park;  
And more!

However, this is one little problem,  
Nicky is a popular dinosaur  
Nicky has more friends than Gary;  
Waaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaay more  
Like 20.

And so Nicky, feeling sorry,  
Had to cancel their fun time.  
Sad, lonely Gary  
found other friends in a frenzy of jealousy.

Until,  
A Paleontologist found two sets of dinosaur bones  
One jealous and sad  
One friendly  
Forever trying to be friends again.

## Poetry – Group 7 WINNER

### China's Fossil

*Hong Kong Red Cross Princess Alexandra School, Lam, Tsz Ki Jason – 14*

Suddenly,  
the excavator dug up  
a dinosaur fossil!  
A construction worker greets it:  
“Ni Hao!”

### Legacy

*Korean International School Springboard, Lowther, Jessica – 18*

Dinosaurs roamed in ancient days, Across China's lands, in countless ways.  
Feathered giants, both great and small,  
Once ruled the earth before their fall.

# Sinosauropteryx – Wonder

*Korean International School Springboard, Choi, Mattea Abbey – 16*

Curiosity  
Everywhere within China:  
Extinct Dinosaurs  
Waiting for you to find them!

Sinosauro—wha?  
How do I really say it?  
It's hard to pronounce;  
As if it's a tongue-twister.

Running ever free:  
A winged bird-like dinosaur  
In Ancient China  
And the Hauterivian Age.

Featherly and small.  
Fluffy like a teddy bear.  
Eagle-eyed like me  
And speedy like the Velo(Note: Velo is short for Velociraptor).

China dragon bird  
vs. The giant T-rex.  
It's a dino sprint!  
Who will achieve victory?

Not only can it fly,  
It can also go extremely fast.  
Isn't it awesome?  
Applause to the Sinosaur!

# Chinese Poetry – Group 1 WINNER

## 恐龙与龙的故事

*YK Pao School, Ju, Qin Yan – 7*

据说山海经中有十四种龙，  
虺五百年化为蛟，蛟千年化为龙。  
这是在告诉今天的我们龙是怎么长大的么？

青龙，白虎，朱雀，玄武，  
他们说青龙代表东方，是春天花草萌芽的样子，  
所谓二月二，龙抬头。  
虎雀龟蛇都是现实存在的生物，  
那么青龙呢？  
五千年前的人们是怎么想象到了你呢？

小时候学英文，  
龙是dragon，恐龙是dinosaur。  
我想问问扬子鳄，  
他们的祖先是不是见过恐龙呢？  
我也想问问始祖鸟，  
它是不是也见过恐龙呢？

可是他们不能回答我，  
今天的扬子鳄已经不是两亿年前的那只，  
博物馆里的始祖鸟只能沉默不言，  
也许有一天，我们终将知道答案，  
就像给地球录一个视频，给几亿年后的谁看。

# Chinese Poetry – Group 2 WINNER

## 恐龍歷險記

*Chinese International School, Wang, Alexandra – 11*

咔嚓！

熱河的冰層裂開，  
探出兩個小腦袋，  
一隻是舞龍，  
一隻迅猛龍！

掙脫冰層束縛，  
忽然飛向天際，  
越飛越高，越飛越遠！  
好奇地俯瞰大地，  
他們究竟要去向何方？

看啊！

雕梁畫棟的宮殿，  
金碧輝煌的龍椅，  
處處可見的畫像，  
數之不盡的廳堂，  
遊人如織好熱鬧！

兩隻恐龍面面相覷，  
心中浮現團團問題：  
為何長相不同？  
為何衣著各異？  
是他們太古老，  
還是我們太現代？



啊！

天空突然昏黃一片，  
沙塵漫天飛舞。  
前路漫漫無際，  
藍天已不可見。  
快快離開這裡！

飛啊飛啊飛啊飛……  
藍綠交織是何方？  
青山綠水真美麗！  
高樓大廈衝雲霄。

夜景如詩如畫，  
霓虹燈光照徹天際！  
突然口渴難耐，  
飛向最近的沙灘。

海水卻渾濁不堪，  
魚兒都消失不見。  
海面漂浮斑斑點點，  
塑料垃圾遍布四方。

不好！  
舞龍被困住了，  
迅猛龍快逃走！  
善良的迅猛龍啊，  
奮力相救不放棄！

別碰塑料袋！  
當心再被困！  
若無好兄弟，  
後果不敢想！

回家吧！  
熱河最安全。  
世上若無熱河，  
恐龍退出歷史的舞台。

# Chinese Poetry – Group 2 WINNER

## 三角龙寻家记

*YK Pao School, Hua, Ruby – 12*

在那遥远的白垩纪，  
三角龙“小如”，心怀壮志。  
离开家园，踏上征途，  
寻找新的栖息地。

晨曦初露，它迎着朝阳，  
脚步坚定，不曾彷徨。  
穿越森林，跨过河流，  
风雨无阻，勇往直前。

高山峻岭，它攀登而上，  
峡谷幽深，它谨慎渡过。  
每一步，都充满挑战，  
每一程，都历经艰难。

遇见暴风雨，它不退缩；  
面对猛兽群，它不畏惧。  
凭借智慧与勇气的力量，  
它一次次化险为夷。

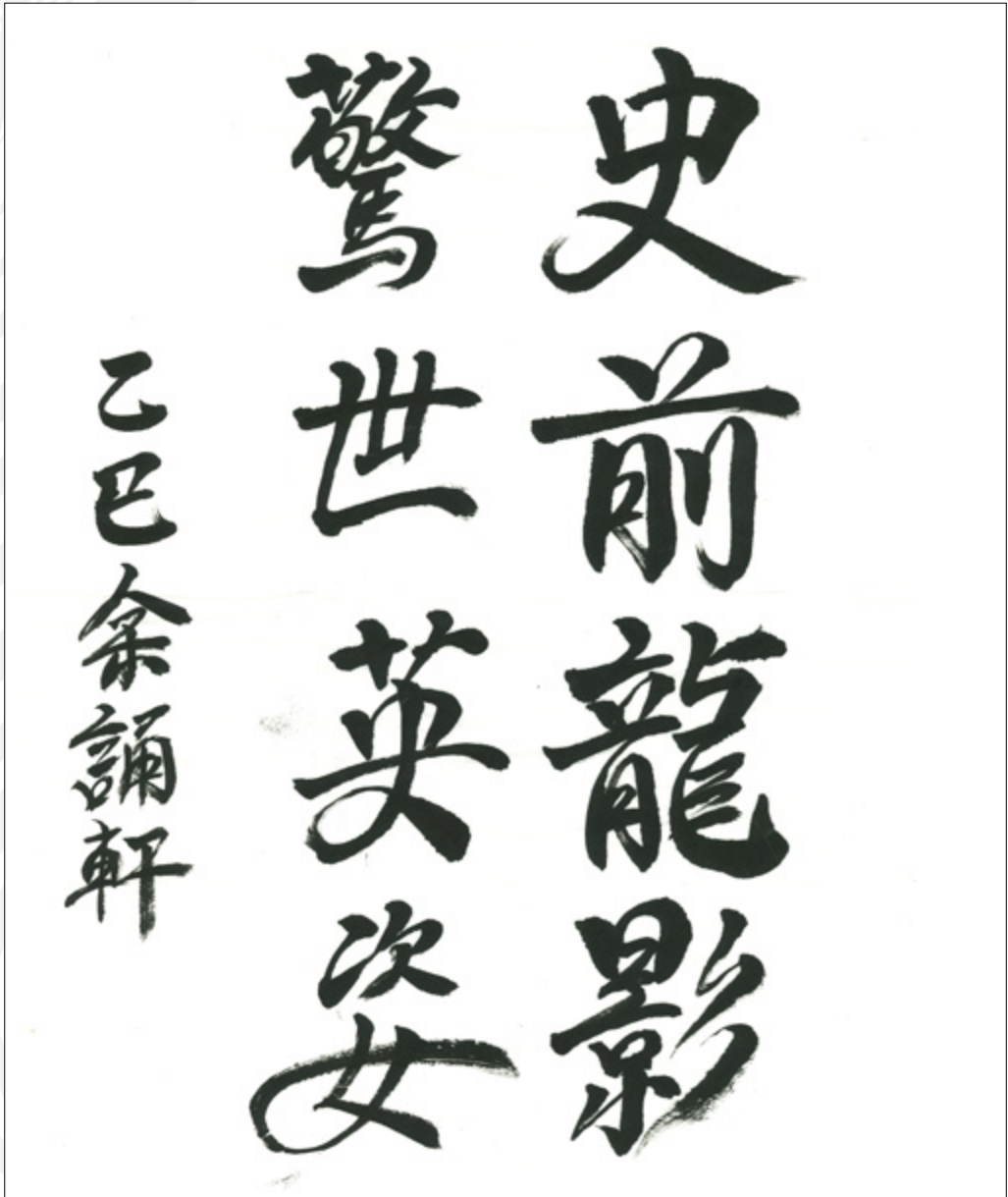
终于，在一个宁静的黄昏，  
它来到中国的一片广袤草原。  
这里绿草如茵、花香四溢，  
湖水清澈映出绚丽的天空。

三角龙“小如”欢呼雀跃：  
“这是我梦中的新家园！”  
它用心感受这片土地的温暖，  
找到了属于自己的安身之所。

哦，小小三角龙，  
你的寻家记，  
是那样动人心弦！

你的故事告诉我们：只要坚定信念、勇敢追求，  
无论多么遥远、多么艰辛，  
终会找到属于自己的幸福天地。

Chinese Calligraphy – Group 2  
WINNER



S.T.F.A. Wu Siu Kui Memorial Primary School, Yu, Chung Hin – 10