



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRIMARY 6
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)
2013

Your Score Out of 95 marks	
Parent's Signature	

Name: _____ () Class: P6 _____

10 May 2013

English Language

Duration: 1 h 50 min

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided for questions 1 to 30 only

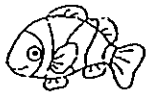
Section A : Comprehension (Graphic Stimulus) (5 x1 mark)

Study the brochure below carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.

MARINA RESORTS WORLD

Choose one of three welcome packages that come with the Marina Resorts World (MRW) \$150 annual membership.

AQUATIC LIFE PARK



The World's Largest Oceanarium

Swim with the stingrays and learn about coral reefs. Come face-to-face with fascinating sea creatures in the world's largest oceanarium and have a whale of a time on thrilling rides and slides.

This package includes:

- two Sandy Cove Adventures day passes worth \$60. Redemption is only available when ticket sales for Sandy Cove Adventures commences.
- two Oceanarium day passes worth \$100. The Oceanarium day pass is valid for six months from the date of issue.
- \$10 dining voucher. The dining voucher is only redeemable at the following participating MRW-owned outlets: Mud Pool Café, Whale Corner

Global Studios Singapore



Southeast Asia's first and only Hollywood movie theme park

Wrestle villains, travel to ancient times and revel in the glamour of showbiz. Enter the enchanting world of movie magic as you "ride the movies" on roller coasters and other movie-themed attractions.

This package includes:

- two adult day passes worth \$160 that allows access to skip the regular queues at five blockbuster attractions. The special access is valid for one year from the date of issue and applies only to Shriek 4-D Adventure, Transfigures: The Ride, Revenge of the Zombie, and Water Park Rapids Adventure.
- a 20% discount when you buy any food or beverage at Hard Luck Café.

CELEBRITY CHEF KITCHEN



Savour a meal by award-winning culinary chefs from various parts of the world

A unique dining concept where chefs experiment and create tantalising dishes, work on new ideas and fuse different culinary concepts. Guests are part of the action, separated merely by a counter between the kitchen and the main dining area.

This package includes:

- a complimentary copy of MRW Food Secrets. Subject to availability on a first-come-first-served basis.
- a five-course Chef's Special worth \$188.
- Advanced reservations are advised. Call 6565 6565 or email cck@mrw.com

1. Reservations can be made _____ at the Celebrity Chef Kitchen.
 - (1) via email only
 - (2) via telephone only
 - (3) via email or telephone
 - (4) on a first-come-first-served basis

2. What privilege does an adult day pass provide at Global Studios Singapore?
 - (1) allows entry to the world of movie magic
 - (2) allows priority access to the five attractions
 - (3) provides a \$10 food voucher at Hard Luck Cafe
 - (4) enables one to travel back in time to wrestle with villains

3. Which one of the following attractions is not open yet?
 - (1) Oceanarium
 - (2) Celebrity Chef Kitchen
 - (3) Sandy Cove Adventures
 - (4) Water Park Rapids Adventure

4. According to the brochure, where can vouchers be exchanged for food and beverage?
 - (1) Whale Corner
 - (2) Hard Luck Café
 - (3) MRW Food Secrets
 - (4) All MRW-owned outlets

5. The main aim of the MRW package is for members to _____.
 - (1) enjoy cost savings
 - (2) enjoy the movie theme park
 - (3) savour a delicious meal by celebrity chefs
 - (4) discover alluring marine creatures in the oceanarium

Section B: Grammar (7x1 mark)

For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

6. Mr Lim was one of the residents _____ flat was burnt in the fire.
- (1) who
 - (2) which
 - (3) whom
 - (4) whose
7. The passenger was taken to the hospital _____ arrival at the airport.
- (1) over
 - (2) upon
 - (3) when
 - (4) during
8. The deep waters of the world have inspired a whole mythology, unparalleled _____ history.
- (1) to
 - (2) in
 - (3) on
 - (4) of

9. The teacher had _____ the lesson before I entered the class.
- (1) begin
 - (2) began
 - (3) begun
 - (4) beginning
10. Kenny is rarely late for his appointments, _____ he?
- (1) is
 - (2) was
 - (3) isn't
 - (4) wasn't
11. Jay likes all types of cuisines _____ from Japanese food.
- (1) save
 - (2) apart
 - (3) besides
 - (4) except
12. All the committee members but Helen _____ the meeting next week.
- (1) is attending
 - (2) are attending
 - (3) was attending
 - (4) were attending

Section C: Punctuation (3 ×1 mark)

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

"Tricia, you smell funny (13) exclaimed Tash, referring to the smell of the insect repellent that Tricia had liberally applied on herself.

"You really don't have to apply so much," Tash continued (14) because they are more afraid of you than you are of them."

That did not seem to console Tricia one bit. She trudged on as she wondered why her teacher had chosen to go to MacRitchie Reservoir during one of the hottest spells of the year (15) She could not wait for this ordeal to end.

Adapted from The Call from the Crying House

13. (1) [,] comma and inverted commas
(2) [.] full stop and inverted commas
(3) [?] question mark and inverted commas
(4) [!] exclamation mark and inverted commas
14. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [.] full stop and inverted commas
(4) [,] comma and inverted commas
15. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [?] question mark
(4) [!] exclamation mark

Section D: Vocabulary (5×1mark)

For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1,2,3 or 4). Shade the correct number in the Optical Answer Sheet.

16. It is _____ of her to think that Santa Claus really exists in this world.
- (1) mature
 - (2) gullible
 - (3) prudent
 - (4) rational
17. The outlook for next year's economy seems _____, as countries around the world brace themselves for disasters and unemployment.
- (1) grim
 - (2) bullish
 - (3) benign
 - (4) glorious
18. Due to her _____ performance, she was granted a scholarship to study medicine overseas.
- (1) sacred
 - (2) sterling
 - (3) substandard
 - (4) sophisticated
19. The workers' schedule must not be _____ so that the job can be finished in an hour's time.
- (1) adhered
 - (2) tempered
 - (3) hampered
 - (4) expedited
20. John did not believe Ken. A fight broke out when he _____ that Ken had taken his new laptop-
- (1) denoted
 - (2) insinuated
 - (3) renounced
 - (4) propounded

Section E : Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

As the party went on, spirits were high and the temperature in the room seemed to be rising by the minute. Suddenly, the slender silhouette of a lady framed the doorway. There was an unmistakable (21) aura surrounding her as she stepped into the room. Loud chatters seemed to (22) dissipate, instead forming hushed whispers as everyone was trying to (23) speculate the identity of this mysterious lady. Seemingly oblivious to the attention she was (24) gamering, the lady stopped in front of the bartender and looked him in the eye. "A coke bourbon please," she (25) cooed, fiddling with the enormous rock she had on her fourth finger as she did so.

21. (1) special quality
(2) sinister quality
(3) serene quality
(4) sensitive quality
22. (1) break up
(2) break off
(3) break away
(4) break down
23. (1) ponder
(2) discover
(3) question
(4) ascertain
24. (1) storing
(2) creating
(3) focusing
(4) acquiring
25. (1) talked softly
(2) talked coldly
(3) talked incoherently
(4) talked impatiently

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Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5x1 mark)

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

<p>Shelly Henry, 45, chief revenue officer for a medical device company in Oklahoma City, choked up as she recalled the day nearly 12 years ago when her daughter, Kara, almost died.</p>	
<p>Kara, then 15, took a ride with a few classmates to high school that morning. Her friend ran a stop sign and a truck struck the car's passenger side where Kara was sitting, singing along to the radio.</p>	5
<p>When Shelly, a medical student and single mother, arrived at the scene, she saw a knot of flashing emergency vehicle lights. Then, she saw her daughter lying motionlessly on the side of the road.</p>	
<p>"At that point, I was just hoping to be able to say goodbye to her," Shelly related.</p>	10
<p>A witness to the accident had pulled Kara from the car. Shelly ran to her daughter and Kara whispered, "I'm not dead."</p>	
<p>Two of the girls escaped with minor injuries. Another girl had a broken neck and rode alongside Kara in an ambulance to the hospital a few miles away. Shelly followed in her own car, thinking, "Can we get there already? I just want her out of pain."</p>	15
<p>The crash had damaged three of Kara's vertebrae, dislocated six discs in her spine and nearly crushed several organs in her abdomen. Doctors feared a two-inch shard of bone pushing into her lower spinal cord could paralyse her. With Shelly's permission, surgeons repaired the bone using a risky new technique which had not been used on many patients. She was also advised to avoid pregnancy as it might further damage her back.</p>	20
<p>Just a few days after her surgery, Kara took her first step. In 2001, wearing a back brace, she moved to her grandparents' home to continue her recovery. She was able to navigate their house with a wheelchair, though she was in chronic pain.</p>	
<p>Later that year, Shelly resumed classes at the University of Central Oklahoma and soon took a job as a technician in a local pain relief clinic. Shelly tried the clinic's regimen of treatments to ease Kara's pain, but none worked. She was devastated.</p>	25
<p>"To see your child suffering takes everything that you have inside and rips it out," she said.</p>	
<p>One day at work, short on time, Shelly made a serendipitous discovery. When she applied laser and electrical stimulation, a two-step pain management treatment traditionally used one at a time, to a patient's upper spine and arms at the same time, the patient said, "I don't know what you just did, but it worked!"</p>	30
<p>Shelly took Kara to the clinic and tried the unique treatment on her lower back. It immediately alleviated her pain.</p>	35
<p>Shelly partnered with two eminent doctors to test the new device. The results showed Kara's pain relief had scientific basis. With hard evidence in hand, Shelly patented the technique and eventually raised enough funds to sell the device. For Shelly, Kara's recovery was the ultimate success. After the treatment, Kara had not taken pain medication in nearly ten years. Her tenacity to overcome all odds was indeed a salient trait.</p>	40

Adapted from Reader's Digest "Cheer Up!" January 2013 Issue (digital version)

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. How did the accident happen?
- (1) Her friend was speeding and knocked down a stop sign.
 - (2) A truck did not stop at the stop sign and collided with the car Kara was in.
 - (3) Kara's singing was too distracting and caused her friend to take her eyes off the road.
 - (4) Her friend defied traffic rules and continued driving when she was not supposed to.
27. What was Shelly's first thought when she arrived at the scene of the accident?
- (1) She wanted to save her daughter.
 - (2) Her daughter did not survive the accident.
 - (3) She wanted to relieve her daughter's pain.
 - (4) She wanted to thank the witness who had saved her daughter.
28. How do we know that the surgery in line 22 was risky?
- (1) She could be paralysed as she was pregnant.
 - (2) Her broken neck could be aggravated after the surgery.
 - (3) The procedure used in the surgery was not commonly used.
 - (4) The doctors did not have the expertise to perform the surgery.
29. Based on the passage, which one of the following statements is true?
- (1) The initial series of treatment Kara had after her surgery reduced her pain.
 - (2) Kara was able to move around in a wheelchair with ease after the surgery.
 - (3) Shelly stopped going to school for some time after the accident to take care of Kara.
 - (4) Kara was the first patient to receive the two-step pain management treatment.
30. Which word from the passage has the same meaning as "persistent"?
- (1) salient
 - (2) chronic
 - (3) eminent
 - (4) serendipitous

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ () P6 ()

Section G: Structural Cloze (10×1 mark)

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) after	(E) for	(J) off	(N) though
(B) as	(F) is	(K) on	(P) thus
(C) be	(G) most	(L) to	(Q) with
(D) behind	(H) of	(M) in	

A China theme park in Australia featuring a full-size replica of gates to the Forbidden City and a nine-storey temple could rival the Sydney Opera House (31) _____ a tourist draw card, officials said Monday.

The planned US\$520 million attraction moved a step closer (32) _____ Wyong Shire Council in New South Wales signed a deal on Sunday to sell 15.7 hectares of land to the company (33) _____ the proposal.

Construction of the seven-sectioned theme park 80 kilometres north of Sydney is set (34) _____ begin in 2015 and be finished by 2020. On completion, it is expected to employ more than 1,000 people.

The first stage of the theme park to be built (35) _____ likely to be the replica of an entrance to the Forbidden City, Beijing's Imperial Palace, complete (36) _____ red walls and a golden roof. There will also (37) _____ a section constructed in the architectural style of the Tang and Song dynasties, with small courtyards typical (38) _____ a Chinese neighbourhood and another in the style of the Ming and Qing dynasties. Other areas will include the temple, a theatre, a royal villa and a children's section devoted to pandas, (39) _____ it will not include any live animals.

The park will capitalise (40) _____ the growing number of tourists from China visiting Australia. China is Australia's fastest growing international tourism market.

Adapted from <http://news.asiaone.com/News/Latest%2BNews/Relax/Story/A1Story20121203-387319.html>

Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10×1mark)

Correct each word in bold for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box.

Be a responsible pet owner, not only to your pet, but to your neighbours as well. That

41)

was the message of a pet care roadshow, organising by the Agri-Food and Veterinary

42)

Athawreeety (AVA). Sales were aplenty but it was the animals which took centrestage at

43)

Causeway Point Shopping Centre. Although getting close to the animals, shoppers also

learnt more about proper pet care through exhibits and talks.

44)

With pet abuse cases within the rise in Singapore, the AVA's Animal Welfare Legislation

45)

Review Committee has received feedback on ways to get tougher. This include fines and

46)

inpresonment as well as community service with an animal welfare group. An e-

consultation platform for the public to give suggestions for better animal welfare will be set

47)

48)

out next month. The committee will also recommend an accreditation skeem for pet

49)

biznesses. Chafman of the Review Committee, Yeok Guat Kwang, said: "Industry buyers

have the responsibility to educate buyers. Before they buy, they must make sure that they

50)

understand the temppuruhment of the pet and what care and love they must give to the
pets that they purchase."

Adapted from <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/1219735/1.html>

Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15x1mark)

Fill in each blank with the most suitable word.

Until an icy night a hundred years ago, the word "Titanic" suggested good things. It meant big, powerful, and extraordinary. That changed in April 1912 as the Royal Mail Ship Titanic, the world's largest and _____ opulent oceangoing vessel, steamed westward on its maiden _____ from England to New York City. As Titanic sailed into the third day, the setting sun lowered the _____ to freezing and the sea's surface shone like glass. A flat sea seemed safe but it hid _____. Icebergs, common to the North Atlantic in spring, would be _____ to spot without waves to break against their sides. Nevertheless, Smith kept the ship at full speed. He believed the crew could react in _____ to any icebergs. Unbeknown to the crew, icebergs indeed lay ahead. By evening, five radio messages were sent from nearby _____ that warned of ice. However, _____ of the crew paid attention to them.

Minutes ticked by and at 11.40pm, lookouts, Frederick and Reginald peered into the _____ and noticed something blacker than the sea lying directly ahead. As the ship drew closer, recognition _____ on him. Frederick rang the warning bell three times and phoned the cockpit. First Officer immediately barked an order to steer left. For more than thirty seconds, deck crew and lookouts _____ their breath. As Titanic passed, the iceberg's underwater bulk punched the right hull plates. _____ gushed into the first five compartments. "She's making water fast!" announced the ship's carpenter.

In just two and a half hours, Titanic was filled with water and _____ into
(63)
the depths of the Atlantic Ocean. Having only 20 lifeboats rather than the 48 that would have
been _____ to save all the people onboard, hundreds of passengers were
(64)
thrown into the icy waters and _____ of hypothermia. More than 1500 crew and
(65)
passengers perished in the frigid waters of the Atlantic Ocean that fateful night.

Adapted from National Geographic "Titanic, Uncovering the Secrets of the World's Greatest Shipwreck."

Section J: Transformation / Synthesis (5 x 2 marks)

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

66. You must leave your bags at the counter. Only then can you enter the shop.

All bags _____

67. I have to travel with a stroller and a baby. It is a troublesome affair for me.

Travelling _____

68. Her grandmother died suddenly. It was hard for her to come to terms with it.

It was not _____

69. The student asked, "Is it time for recess?"

The student asked _____

70. John cannot go to the exhibition with us. He must obtain permission from his boss.

_____ unless

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (10 × 2 marks)

Read the passage and answer the questions 71 to 80.

<p>"Left! Right!" our guide, Maldo, shouted as we paddled furiously. We had been navigating the torrential rapids of Cagayan de Oro River for four hours, zipping between rocks and bursting through white-crested waves. It was my first time white-water rafting and the experience was amazing!</p>	
<p>My father and I had long dreamed of doing this. Finally in March 2008, when I was 13, we set off with the rest of our family and some friends from our homes in Metro Manila to Cagayan de Oro, a rafting hotspot in southern Philippines. Filled with excitement, we walked onto the riverbank towards the bright yellow rafts that would be our front-row seats to the river's fury. We were a large group. Heading our troop of adventure-seeking amateurs were two professional guides.</p>	5
<p>After completing the Beginner's and Advanced Course, most of us had had enough. Only a few of us, my father, myself and Maldo included, pressed on. Maldo said we had traversed all the courses open to the public. All that remained was the Extreme Course, a hazardous stretch that only the rafting guides and the Philippine National Rafting Team had been allowed to enter. Maldo warned that this run had not been tried and tested yet, but what he said only made us yearn for more adventure. We insisted on trying it out.</p>	10
<p>When we finally arrived at the starting point, we stepped onto our raft apprehensively. A few of us tried to rouse the others with sounds of hurray, but the real professionals could tell immediately that we were just trying not to look amateurish. My heart palpitated wildly as our raft hit the first set of rapids. Maldo yelled out some commands and following them, we managed to manoeuvre our way out. I heaved a sigh of relief and thought the experience was actually not too bad. After all, we were still alive. In fact, we survived many more rapids afterward and I was beginning to feel a little disappointed.</p>	15
<p>Then came the most torrential part of the river. We greeted the rapids with roars. Maldo was yelling to paddle around a fallen tree trunk, but between our howls and our reluctance to be cautious, not a word got through to us. Suddenly, the raft hit the trunk, and the onrushing water started to tip us over.</p>	20
<p>Before setting off, we had been lectured about worst-case scenarios. Should the raft begin to tip over, we needed to balance it out by shifting all our weight onto the rising side. It all seemed simple enough, but in the panic of the moment, we tried paddling around the tree. We were going against the current and the raft refused to budge. Within 10 seconds, we were thrown into the current.</p>	25
<p>I thrashed around underwater for a brief moment before kicking up to the surface. With my life vest keeping me afloat, I was dragged through a maze of half-submerged rocks. Suddenly, I felt a searing surge of pain as the fast moving water threw me into a boulder. I wrapped my arms around it and I could feel my grip gradually slipping. My fingers finally slipped free and I was tossed and pulled and thrown by the raging current, just like a ragdoll. I was sure I was going to die. Then a strange thing happened. The piercing sapphire colour of the water faded into a dull blue and its ferocious roar shrank into a faint growl. My mind started to wander.</p>	30
<p>My train of thought was interrupted when a muscular arm hooked around my waist. "Lay on your back!" Maldo's commanding voice jolted me back to reality. He kept a firm grip as we rode out the remainder of the torrent.</p>	35
<p>It has been over two years since my brush with death and I am still shaken at the memory. I am ready to go rafting again, which makes me think I have conquered my fear, but deep down, I realise that one can never really know for sure. Just when you think you got it figured out, Nature manages to pull a fast one as she presents a new adventure.</p>	40
<p><i>Adapted from Santiago Arnaiz's "My Story: Reader's Digest November 2010"</i></p>	45

Name: _____ () P6 ()

Answer questions 71-80 in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Where exactly were the author and his group and what were they doing?

72. In what way did Maldo's words make the author yearn for more adventure in line 16?

73. Why did the author begin to feel a little disappointed in line 23?

74. Why did the author and his group not listen to Maldo's commands in line 26?

75. Which word in the passage tells you that the author and his group were inexperienced rafters?

76. Describe in detail how the author was finally saved.

77. Which sentence in the passage tells you that the author was injured when he was thrown into the waters?

78. What should the author and his group have done when the raft tipped over?

79. Refer to lines 38-40 "the piercing sapphire ... a faint growl". Explain, in your own words, what was happening to the author that caused him to feel this way.

80. Describe how the author had changed after his brush with death.

END OF PAPER

Setters:
Ms Serene Chan
Ms Pek Xueyan
Mr Jonathan Teo

Exam Paper 2013 Answer Sheet

School: RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

Subject: PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

Term: SA1

1) 3	6) 4	11) 2	16) 2	21) 1	26) 4
2) 2	7) 2	12) 2	17) 1	22) 1	27) 2
3) 3	8) 2	13) 4	18) 2	23) 1	28) 3
4) 1	9) 3	14) 4	19) 3	24) 4	29) 3
5) 1	10) 1	15) 2	20) 2	25) 1	30) 2

31) B	33) D	35) F	37) C	39) N
32) A	34) L	36) Q	38) H	40) K

41. organized
42. Authority
43. Besides
44. on
45. These
46. imprisonment
47. up
48. scheme
49. businesses
50. temperament
51. most
52. voyage
53. temperature
54. dangers
55. difficult
56. time
57. ships

58. none

59. dark

60. dawned

61. held

62. water

63. sank

64. needed

65. died

66. All bags must be left at the counter before you can enter the shop.

67. Travelling with a stroller and a baby is a troublesome affair for me.

68. It was not easy for her to come to terms with her grandmother's sudden death.

69. The student asked if it was time for recess.

70. John cannot go to the exhibition unless he obtains permission from his boss.

71. They were at the Cagayan de Oro River and they were white-water rafting.

72. As the extreme course had not been tried and tested yet, the more the author wanted to try it out.

73. He had survived all the rapids so far and he thought that it would be more exciting.

74. They were howling and reluctant to be cautious.

75. It is "amateurs".

76. Maldo's arm hooked around the author's waist and Maldo commanded the author to lay on his back as they rode out the remainder of the torrent.

77. It is "suddenly, I felt a searing surge of pain as the fast moving water threw me into a boulder."

78. They should have balanced the raft out by shifting all their weight onto the rising side.

79. The author was about to faint.

80. He used to be very reckless but after the incident, he was more careful in dealing with the unknown.

The Board of Education has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. [Name], for the year ending June 30, 1909. The report is a most interesting and valuable one, and shows a steady and consistent improvement in the quality of the public schools of this city.

The total enrollment for the year was 12,345, an increase of 150 over the previous year. The average attendance was 85 per cent, and the total amount of money expended for the year was \$1,234,567. The Board is pleased to note that the financial condition of the schools is sound and that the property of the district is well maintained.

The Board also wishes to express its appreciation to the many teachers and school officers who have labored so faithfully and efficiently during the past year. Their efforts have resulted in a high standard of scholarship and a general improvement in the moral and social character of the pupils.

The Board will continue to support the efforts of the Superintendent and the school officers, and will strive to secure the best possible results for the public schools of this city.