



Grade 6 students from Manila and Batangas putting up tents for their camping.

The first group to put up a tent poses for the camera.



Students and teachers of CENTEX Manila and Batangas share the warmth of their bonfire.

They Came... They Camped!

By: Hershey F. Gabi

January 27, 2007, Saturday. The sun was steaming in hotness. Grade 6 pupils came in scout uniform bringing almost everything in huge baggages. While preparing, they were sweaty but their eyes were shining with much excitement. This was the start of the two-day camping for the Grade 6 children of CENTEX Manila and Batangas.

Then, a bus stopped and smiling faces of boys and girls got off. They were all from CENTEX Manila. The host children greeted them with a warm welcome and helped them carry their bags to the quarter's area. It smelled the aroma of a brewing friendship around my vicinity.

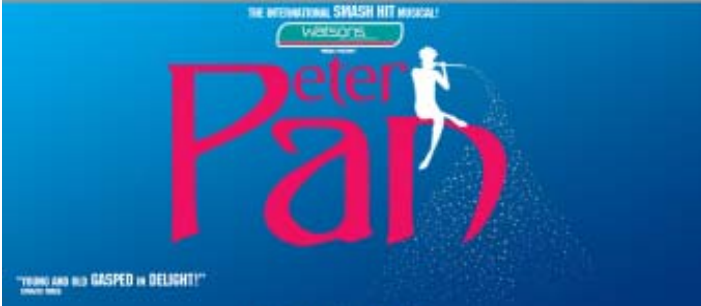
After resting, the coordinators formally started the affair with an opening program. This was the chance for the two principals, Ms. Fe Duldulao of CENTEX Manila and Mrs. Dang Marasigan of CENTEX Batangas, to deliver their messages.

Tent pitching followed right after the opening program. Then, the girl scouts went to their respective bases where they were given various theme related activities like recycling, jingle making, and lecture about a great girl scout's life, Josefa Llanes Escoda. The boy scouts were also given separate activities. Some of their trainings were the proper blowing of whistles and line formation during scouting.

During nighttime, I felt warmth embracing me as we gather around the bonfire. All the campers prepared a cheer, a song and a dance for everybody. As the pieces of woods turned into ashes, the pupil's tired feet headed towards their respective tents to sleep.

The camping's culminating activity was a walk to the Batangas seashore. We all admired the beauty of the inviting sea. The closing ceremony followed. It was sad to see our new friends leaving. But I know, the grin on their faces told me that a part of them was left in CENTEX Batangas's humble yard.

Congratulations Class 2007!



PETER PAN

By: Brithany Coleen P. Castillo
Gr. 3 - Malikhain

Last January 12, 2007, I was one of the lucky students who had a chance to watch the musical play "Peter Pan" at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. My friends and I were so excited!

When the play started, all the students and teachers from CENTEX-Manila could not take their eyes off the stage. Everything was wonderful — the set, the music, the choreography, and especially the actors! Imagine watching Peter Pan and Tinkerbell flying all over the stage! Tinkerbell was my favorite character. She was just so beautiful! I loved how the play ended, especially when Peter Pan flew towards the audience. I felt a little bit scared of Captain Hook and his pirates, though.

After the play, my friends and I asked for the autographs of Peter Pan, Tinkerbell, and Captain Hook. It was a very magical experience for all of us. I fell asleep in the bus on our way back to school. I felt tired, but very happy. We hope that we will be given another chance to watch a play as fantastic as "Peter Pan". Thank you very much for this memorable experience, Ms. Sofia Zobel and Mr. Matthew Gregory!

The Man Behind the Music

By: Hershey F. Gabi

I was just sitting on our cool floor with my legs crossed and my chin on my palm. I was staring at the television and watching Pinoy Dream Academy. I was idolizing a very nice boy, RJ Jimenez.

At a glance, he's just a simple guy at the backstage. But when I heard his voice singing his own composition, I started admiring him and I was so inspired. To me, he is a very special boy. Ever since, I dreamt of seeing him, but people would say, "in your dreams!" That is why I never imagined seeing him personally.



But then, when he was already on his way to fame, Teacher Tin and Teacher Des gave us a chance to meet him. Last January 18, 2007, the CENTEX Batangas students' eyes were filled with excitement. We prepared thank you cards and ourselves for him. When the clock struck 2:00 in the afternoon, oh no! Here he comes...



"...if you want something to happen, then make it..." as he entered the room we played one of his most-loved composition... "Let us all welcome the man behind the song Miss Kita Pag Tuesday, It's All About Your Love, and If We Fall In Love, Mr. RJ Jimenez of Pinoy Dream Academy." That was my line as I introduced him.

I can't believe that I'm near my idol. I can see him face to face and we're just a few feet apart. He was so handsome and attractive. Then he started his talk about music and song writing. He took with him his guitar and sang in between discussions.

He shared his secrets and techniques on how to compose songs. I've learned that we can compose songs by writing our own personal experiences. We could also write through dedications for someone special in our lives. Being in touch with our feelings and emotions can also aid us in composing songs.

I got shocked when at the middle of his talk he pointed at me and asked for my name. I felt so special because of all the girls in the room, he noticed me, why me? After saying my name, he composed a song for me. And since I was named after a really famous chocolate, it was about two people who fell in love because of a chocolate. I was so flattered!

But every beginning has an ending. It was time to say goodbye. After an hour of interaction, discussion and singing, he said his last few words and bid us goodbye. The time he spent with us will always be in our hearts. The moment he gave to us will always be cherished. "Thank you so much Kuya RJ and you're always welcome here!"



Drawing by: Marlene M. Mendoza



Drawing by: Jerick B. Marasigan



CENTEX Batangas Holds Family Day

By: CJ M. Acuzar

February 14, 2007, CENTEX students, parents and teachers celebrated family day to further strengthen the bond of the students' families.

The day started with a mass celebration – the Batangas community's way of thanking the Lord for giving them a day to gather. After the mass, each grade level presented a dance number for their families. Contests were also held that day. The grade three students bagged the first prize in the modern dance competition in the primary level, while the grade six students won in the intermediate level. The students also had a ballroom dancing competition. In the primary level, kindergarten parents got the first prize and again, the grade six parents won in the intermediate level. The most enjoyed competition during the family day was the "That's my Boy!" contest. Josh Mathew Bataan of grade two and Jerome Pasia of grade six got the gold medal in this contest.

Graduation Day's Wish
By: Jaycell Ann Calalo



This is the day that we've waited for.
There is excitement in our hearts that is for sure.
When you think of it, your life is not a bore,
Please listen to me, I don't want to be ignored.

Now that graduation day is soon,
I'm always staring at the sky and looking at the moon.
Hoping someday I will go to the lagoon
And there I will find a man like Simon.

At this point you'll see in my eyes
I'll study hard and not think of guys
Even if you look inside my heart, I'm not telling a lie.
I'll use the knowledge they give, if I don't I'll shy.

Graduation Day
By: Babylyn Austria

Graduation day is what I've been waiting for,
Happiness filled my heart ever since before,
Each day my excitement grows more and more
That's why each happening to God I adore.

Few days, hours, and minutes to go,
But now my mind wanted to change so
Wishing that it was still June of last year,
'Cause only now I found true friends that wipes away my tears.

Though the year is soon ending,
I still feel like floating
When I'm imagining
My diploma I'm receiving!



Let's Enjoy Summertime
By: Bianca Andrea Paredes

The sun rising in the east,
Makes summer hotter than ever.
The thrill of summer this April and May
Brings joy to us, makes trees sway.
To perfect their summer,
Some go to the beach
Their skins change to brown
From pink and peach.
Others enjoy the paradise,
With buzzing bees and butterflies.
Watching daffodils bloom and rise,
Listening to birds singing lullabies.
This hot and lovely summer,
Is indeed a time of excitement because...

School days are over!
No more assignments and quizzes,
No more reviews and projects,
Let's enjoy summer time.
Let's have fun!

GRADE 6 GRADUATION SONG, CLASS 2006-2007

WONDERLAND

There's a place we'd like to see
A place where we'd like to go and be
It's a place of which we know
Where candy trees stand in a row

It's a world where love and care,
Are shared by people everywhere
It's a world of which we know
Where dreams fulfilled will overflow
So this is how it feels

Chorus:

Aim high, soar high
We'll spread our wings
And learn to fly
We'll take the risk till we touch the sky
Let's make a wish, take a chance
We can reach the stars
We'll see you in our wonderland

From this moment, there's no turning back
Moving on our different tracks
Come, let's take each other's hand-
As we journey to our wonderland
So this is how it feels