Years 5 & 6 1st Place: Eu Ming Khaw Year 5, Harrisdale Primary School

## The Piper's Revenge

As the cave closed firmly behind them, the Pied Piper of Hamelin led the 130 children through a narrow passageway before reappearing at the other side of the mountain. He led them down the steep passageway carefully before guiding them with the sweet melody of the pipe through the vast and dense forest. "This will teach the people in the village a lesson for not paying me now. Let's see how they live their lives now without their children," the Piper scowled in anger. The Piper walked in a straight line, cutting through the jungle as the animals in his line of path quickly scurried away with frightened squeals.

The children, who were deeply entranced by the sweet melody from the Piper's magical flute cheered upon reaching their destination in the middle of the forest. They were greeted by a majestic waterfall surrounded by lush greenery. There was an abundance of fruits as far as the eye could see and a sun stone dangled from the tallest tree as it shone brightly above them. The children jumped into the pool in excitement. Laughter filled the air as the children played in the water. The Piper sat back with glee as he felt that he had taught the villagers a lesson by stealing their children from them.

However, the playful and happy atmosphere did not last long. The children started to misbehave after a few weeks in the forest. They were no longer charmed by the melody from the flute as they started to annoy the Pied Piper. Without their parents around, they were misbehaving and disobedient. The Piper realised then that he had made a mistake. How could he control all the children on his own? A few days later, the most obnoxious child in the group named Rebel, lead the children to tie up the Piper. The Pied Piper could not do anything and the kids overpowered him. "Ungrateful brats!" he yelled.

Nightfall soon came and the children headed to bed. The Pied Piper swiftly cut the rope with a knife that was hidden in his sleeve. He escaped to look for the children's parents as now he wanted to teach the children a lesson instead. He made his way back into town and disclosed the location of the cave to them. The parents could not recognise the Piper as he had entranced them with the music from the flute. They thanked him profusely and quickly rushed to the cave, eager to find their children. As the last parent entered the cave...

Slam! The Piper blew the flute in victory and closed the cave opening, reuniting and trapping the parents with the children in the forest.

"Let the ungrateful brats be disciplined by their parents now," he thought. The Piper realised then that he could make anyone fall under his spell using his magical instrument and with everyone now trapped in the cave, no one could reveal his secret. As he left the cave with flute in hand, he spotted another town over the hills as an evil grin started to spread across his face. "Hee hee hee," he chuckled devilishly.