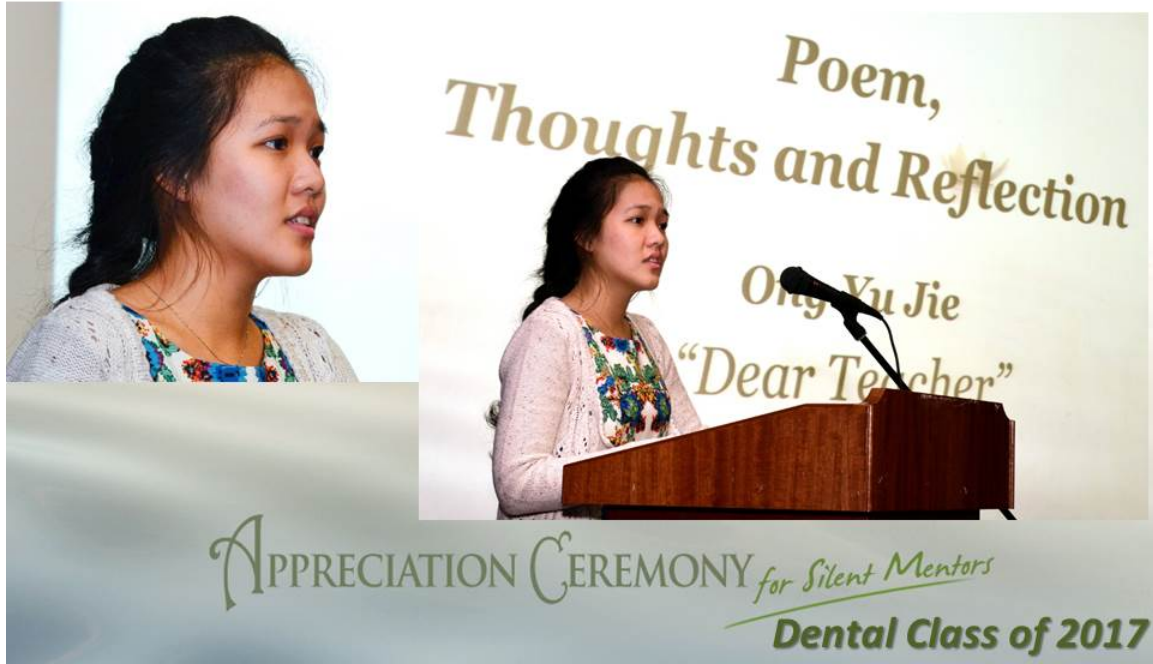


Poem, Thoughts and Reflection

Ong Yu Jie: "Dear Teacher"



Dear Teacher

If I may be as bold as to ask, would you please tell me why?

A life complete, you were on your way

Yet you paused right here and promised to stay

To a class you never knew, you selflessly gave

I wanted to know who you were, give a name a story an identity

The hands that lie peacefully by your sides, what warmth did they hold

Lips that stay as still as night, yet what smiles did they bestow

Eyes that once took in these wondrous sights

You spoke in silence and made learning a delight

Heart will continue to beat

Lungs shall not cease to breathe

Not through one, nor two but to many who have received

A sacrifice, a lesson, a gift of such magnitude

Will remain an enduring memory of gratitude

To us and to any who tread this path:

Live with compassion, treat with great dedication

Empathise, love, be patient and kind

The ultimate lesson from a teacher here before our time

To you who gave so freely and whose legacy will go on

Silently mentoring, quietly teaching

Thank you teacher, for a journey most enlightening.