

Magical Running Shoes

Story by Poon Kam-ying



Magical Running Shoes

Characters



Simon



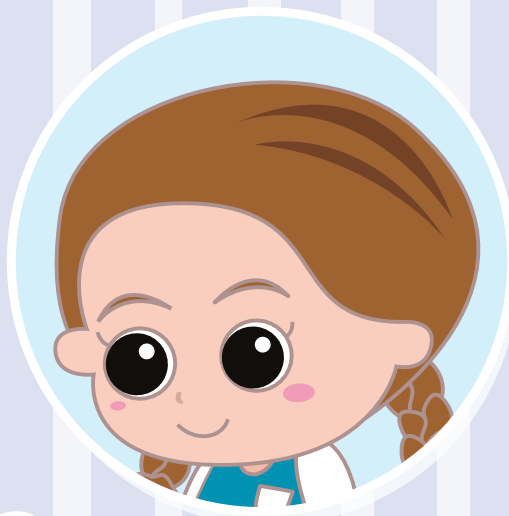
Tom



Henry



Mr CHEUNG



Jenny



Howard



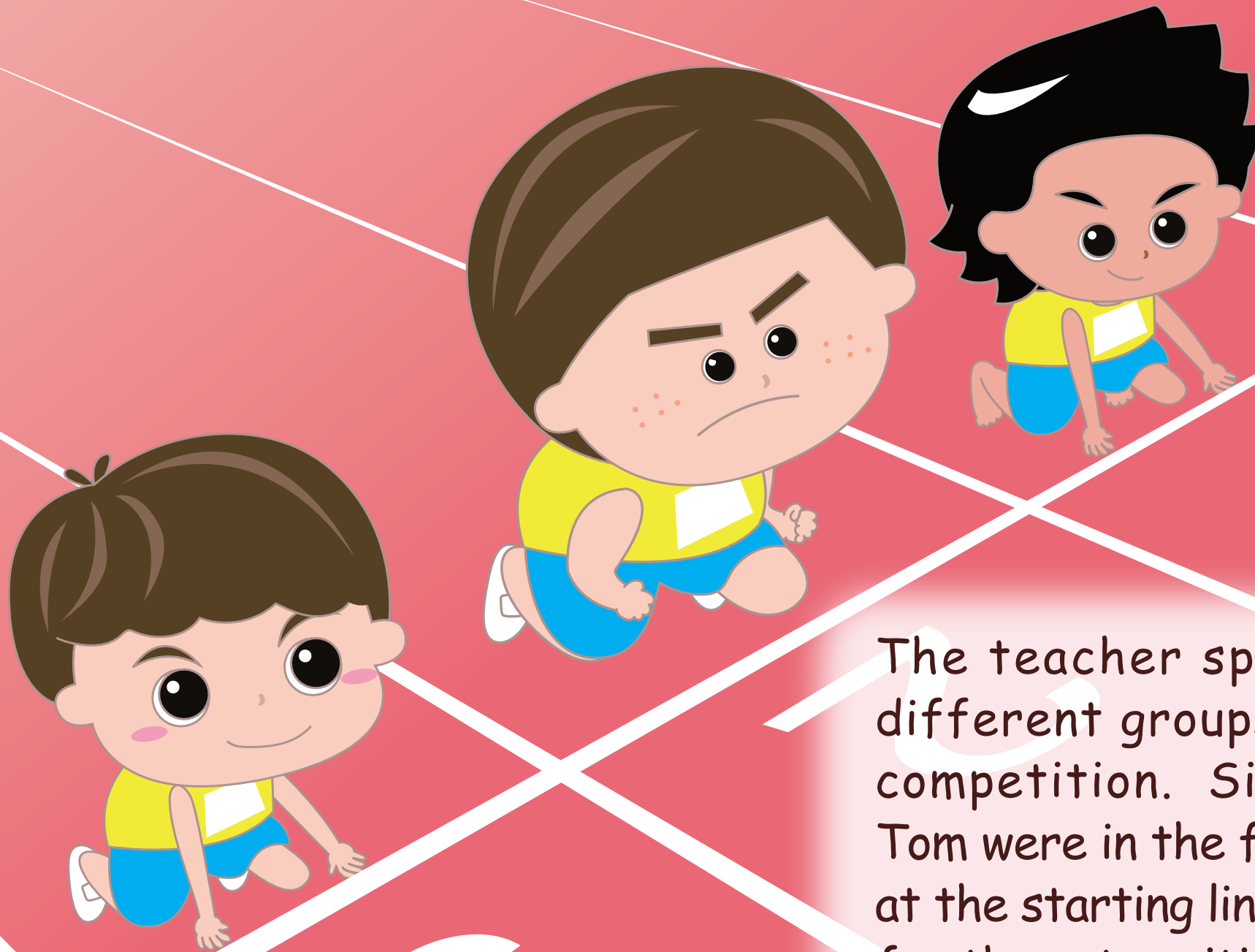
Little Monster

The joint school sports day was coming soon. Mr CHEUNG, the PE teacher, made an announcement to the Athletics Team, "You have to train hard on the runs. Tomorrow, I will select two representatives for the track events. Keep going!"



Simon was the first runner-up of the 100M sprint at last year's school sports day. He smiled and thought, "This year, I have to be the champion and represent the school to take part in the joint school sports day."





The teacher split the class into different groups to train for the competition. Simon, Howard and Tom were in the first group to stand at the starting line. Simon got ready for the set position confidently with tight fists and bright eyes staring at the front.

The teacher shouted, "Get set ... go!" Everyone ran as fast as they could. Howard was running as fast as a cheetah and sprang off to the front.

Tom was a freshman from a village school. Even without his track shoes, he was still very fast on his bare feet. Simon made a tremendous effort but there was no way for him to catch up. Finally, Simon came in last.



After school, Jenny saw Simon looking dejected. "They were running faster than me. I couldn't even catch up with Tom running on bare feet. No matter how hard I try, it's in vain." Simon sighed.

Jenny comforted Simon, "You were the first runner-up last year. If you train hard, you will definitely run faster."



On the way home, Simon was still very upset.

At this moment, the naughty Little Monster suddenly appeared and said to Simon, "It's very easy to win the race! I have an invincible pair of magical running shoes. Just press this button, then you will run as quickly as a car."



"That's cool! I want to try!"
Simon was very interested in the
magical shoes.

Little Monster told Simon that
putting on those shoes was just
like being charged with electricity.
He could become the champion
even without training.



Simon was excited to put the shoes on. He secretly pressed the button and easily ran the whole track. He then brought the pair of magical shoes home happily.



On the following day when the training session came, everyone went to the playground to practise on the track. However, Jenny saw Simon still eating snacks at the tuck shop. Then she reminded him, "Simon, aren't you going to join the training?"



"Haha! There's no need to do training anymore!" Simon was happily jumping around with the magical shoes on, "With these magical shoes, I will definitely become the champion!"

After learning about the secret, Jenny said to Simon, "The teacher always said we have to compete with all our efforts, and that's sportsmanship!"



Simon was too impatient to listen further. "Winning isn't everything, but it's the only thing! Don't bother me!" Simon said boldly and then went away.



On the competition day, Mr CHEUNG called everyone up and said, "Competition has to be fair and just. We must try our best to run and get the best results!"



Howard, Tom, Simon, Henry and a few other classmates were all ready at the starting point. When the whistle blew, all the athletes ran straight to the finishing line. Simon had the magical shoes on and was exceptionally fast. He was leading by a long distance right at the start.

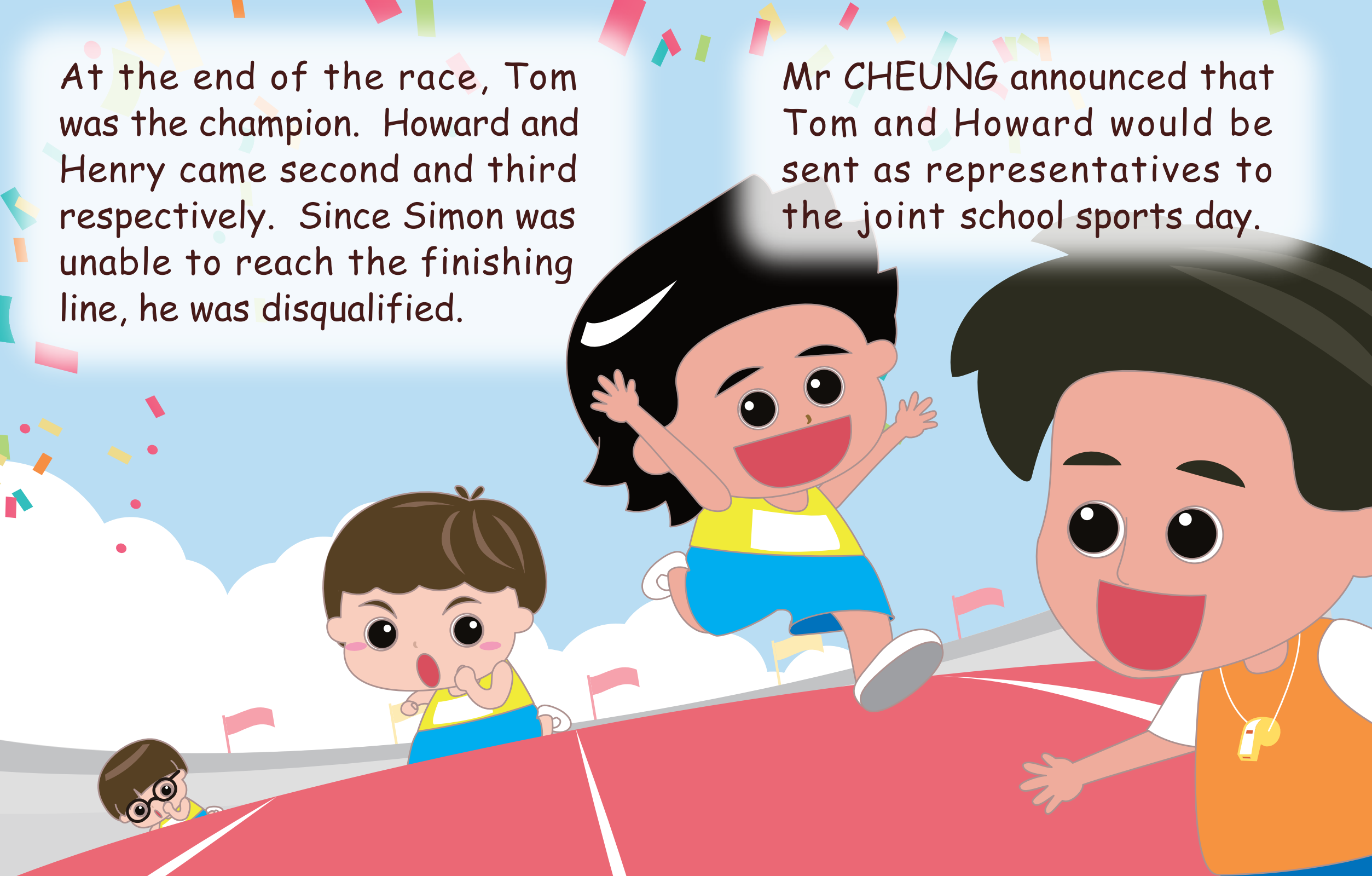


When Simon was prepared to cross the finishing line, he pressed the button to accelerate. At this moment, the magical shoes seemed to lose control and took Simon away from the track! Since the shoes were going so fast, Simon lost balance and fell on the ground!



At the end of the race, Tom was the champion. Howard and Henry came second and third respectively. Since Simon was unable to reach the finishing line, he was disqualified.

Mr CHEUNG announced that Tom and Howard would be sent as representatives to the joint school sports day.





Simon fell on the ground and was injured. He was sitting on one side of the track and crying. Mr CHEUNG shook his head and said, "Simon, if you were willing to train, it wouldn't be difficult to get good results on the track at all! It's a pity that you wanted to take a shortcut and that's no good! Competition is a matter of sportsmanship. It has to be fair." Actually, Jenny had already told Mr CHEUNG about Simon's secret of the magical shoes!

Simon begged, "Sir, I really want to represent the school to compete! Would you please give me another chance?"

Mr CHEUNG said, "Actually, you ran very well. It's a great pity that you had lost before running because you cheated. Sportsmanship is the most important quality of a runner!"



Simon felt too ashamed to apologise to the teacher and his classmates. He threw the magical shoes away. He was determined to put in effort in training to strive to become the champion with his own abilities.





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