

## Writer Of The Week



Miss Melissa Tan (second from left) with her parents Maria and Wilson, and their helper Mila (carrying their dog Silver). Miss Tan enjoys reading and engaging in scientific research. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MELISSA TAN SIEW TING

**Who:** Melissa Tan Siew Ting, 20, a Nanyang Technological University undergraduate in materials science and engineering.

**My family:** I'm an only child. My parents, Wilson Tan and Maria Loh, are both 48. Our helper Milagros Quidolit (Mila for short), is 56. Silver, our shih tzu, is 13.

**My home:** A condominium in Tampines.

**My passions:** Reading a wide range of genres, including fantasy, scientific books and sci-fi; playing badminton and engaging in scientific research.

**I started writing to the Forum page...:** In December 2013.

**What I write about:** Societal issues, education, science and technology.

**Why I write:** I enjoy debating and giving my opinions on issues that I am passionate about. I hope my contributions will spur readers to be more aware of certain societal issues, such as those relating to foreign workers and our education system.

I also aim to highlight the importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (Stem) education and scientific literacy in our society.

**I read the Forum page because...:** I am interested in reading about the views of ordinary Singaporeans on the issues close to home.

**My wish for Singapore:** That it will continue to flourish, develop a deep-rooted national identity and become a world leader in scientific research, technological development and innovation.

I hope that more young Singaporeans will be interested in science, technology and engineering as a career, especially women, who are currently under-represented in these fields.