

Lee Jin loves football. He's the captain of his school team. It's school as usual until Lee Jin learns that there might be a chance for him to become a pro! But only if he is selected to join Superkicks, a special football training programme!

However, there's a mysterious girl who might be a better player than him! Which one of them will make the mark? Lee Jin has a big surprise waiting for him.

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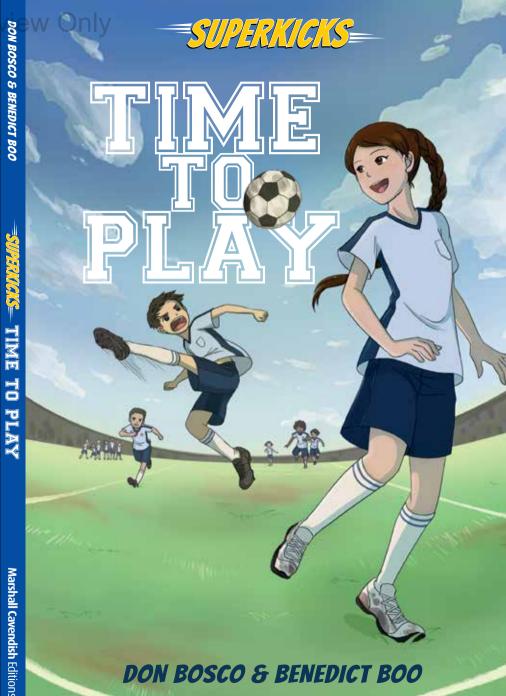
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#### DON BOSCO & BENEDICT BOO



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To all young readers. Train well and you can be a champion one day. May your dreams come true!

# **CHAPTER 1**

It was Friday afternoon at Astra Public School, the last lesson before the end of the day.

The weather happened to be very hot. The whole week had been scorching, in fact, but today felt like the worst.

Class 6A was having their English lesson with Mrs Sally Hogworth. She had thick curly hair, round spectacles and a big necklace made of chunky purple beads.

She was reading a comprehension passage from their textbook. Problem was, the students couldn't catch more than a phrase or two of what she said. What they mostly heard was a constant, "BBBRRRWWWHHHHRRRRRR!"

This was because the four fans up on the ceiling were whirling at full blast. Spinning so fast and so hard that they completely drowned out Mrs Hogworth.

It had been a long day, packed with all sorts of activities, indoors and out. Most of the kids were so tired they were ready to collapse on the floor and fall asleep right there and then. They yawned and rubbed their eyes.

Add the afternoon heat and the hypnotic "BRWHHHR" from the fans, and it's no wonder quite a few of them were also nodding off.

But not Lee Jin. He was actually wide awake. And very alert. Except that he wasn't paying attention to Mrs Hogworth as he should have been.

He had a book on his lap, hidden low enough that Mrs Hogworth couldn't see it.

The title of the book was *Warren Wee and the Super Striker Force*.

It was about a group of young football players, all exceptionally talented strikers, who had been recruited to represent Earth in an intergalactic football championship.

Their mission was to play against all sorts of fierce and scary aliens. And their captain was a brave boy named Warren Wee.

Lee Jin loved two things: football and reading. His mother had passed away when he was much younger, his father often travelled for work, and his older brother Jee was away studying in Australia. But Lee Jin never felt lonely. You could always find him either playing football with his friends in school, or with his nose in one storybook or another, lost in the



story. He especially loved the Warren Wee series because it was a science fiction adventure that featured a young and independent football hero. Someone he could really admire.

Lee Jin turned the pages quickly. The story was so exciting that his fingers trembled. He was eager to finish the book before the end of class.



Aaargh!

*Time was running out.* 

Warren Wee had to face the Monster.

*His heart beat madly. His body tingled with excitement.* 

The Monster rushed towards him. There was a horrible look on its face.

It was very angry. And hungry for battle. Warren heard a voice in his head, barking *instructions. "Go! Stop the Monster! Do your best!"* 

The Monster didn't slow down. Instead, it started to weave left and right menacingly. Trying to confuse Warren.

*Warren grinned. He was immune to the Monster's tricks.* 

He had come here to win!

Warren suddenly darted towards the Monster. Just like he had been practising.

Very nimbly, he slid between the Monster's legs, and with his left foot, jabbed at the Fireball that was floating there.

It seemed like an effortless move. But it was expertly executed. The kick had lots of power behind it.

"Eh?" the Monster called out in surprise. Too late.

Warren grinned as the Fireball soared through the air. It flew right into his opponent's goal post.

The Monster howled. "Ooooowww!" A terrible cry. It was enraged. Once again, Warren had saved the day.

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BANG!

Lee Jin jumped up in shock when something slammed down hard on his desk.

"What on earth are you daydreaming about?" Mrs Hogworth said. She was clearly exasperated. "I called your name at least five times! Do you know the answer?"

That would have been impossible, because Lee Jin hadn't even heard the question.

With lightning reflexes, he shoved the book under the desk. He was relieved that

Mrs Hogworth hadn't noticed it.

"Uh," was all that Lee Jin could say, before the bell rang.

It was the end of school for the day.

"Yaaay!" the students cried in relief.

There was a great noise as the kids grabbed their bags and other stuff and scrambled for the door.

Lee Jin gave Mrs Hogworth an apologetic grin. "Sorry," he said, "that was the final whistle."

Mrs Hogworth's face turned red. "Is that all you ever think about?" she said. "Football will get you nowhere!"

# CHAPTER 2

Instead of rushing out the main gate, as most of the other kids were doing, or heading for the canteen to get lunch, Lee Jin hurried over to the school gym.

Along the way, he came across a crumpled sheet of paper on the floor. He just couldn't resist it. His head was still filled with thrilling images from the Warren Wee story he had just been reading.

He managed to dribble the ball of paper past two girls, pretending that they were alien Monsters, and then one boy, followed by five

# **ABOUT DON BOSCO**

**Don Bosco** is an award-winning writer and publisher of thrilling fiction for teens and children. His stories are inspired by Asian legends and pop culture. He started the publishing studio, Super Cool Books in 2011. His books include the popular Sherlock Hong Adventures series and the Lion City Adventures series. He has also been a featured speaker at creative writing events.

# **ABOUT BENEDICT BOO**

**Benedict Boo** (Coach Ben) is a sports enthusiast. He's passionate about promoting an active lifestyle, especially among the young. Besides marathon running, his other love is football. He plays regularly and is also coaching a team. He has two decades of experience working in education and publishing. Creating this Superkicks series is truly a dream come true for him.