



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Next Tuesday 11 November marks Armistice or Remembrance Day, a day to commemorate the official end to World War I and the sacrifice of soldiers and civilians who died in the cause. World War I was supposed to be the "War to End All Wars". Unfortunately the world is still beset by war today. As a Christian school what should be our response to war? Christians usually fall into two camps – pacifists who oppose war and those who support a 'Just War'. There are biblical passages to support each view. Googling the topic provides many relevant articles for research and consideration. One I personally found useful can be found at <http://christiananswers.net/q-faith/fc-warperspectives.html>.

Whatever one's position, these special occasions are important times to reflect on the cost of war, and remember the sacrifices made by those in war who died trying to secure justice and defending those who could not defend themselves. Armistice Day is one such special day.

This is the second-to-last newsletter of the year. The last will be published at the end of term in two weeks' time and amongst other items will contain important dates for next year, an acknowledgement of leaving staff, and details of the new 2015 school timetable.

Our Year 4 and 6 students are currently sitting their external IGCSE and IBDP examinations. We continue to wish them well in their endeavours. The rest of the school has now completed their end-of-year internal examinations and teachers are currently marking and returning scripts, and giving follow up lessons. The final school reports will include feedback on the examinations and the whole year's work, and will be distributed at the end of term. See the end of this newsletter for end of term dates.

We look forward to celebrating the 2014 school year and acknowledging some of the many student successes this year at the final Speech Day Prize Giving and Year 6 Graduation ceremony both to be held on Friday 21 November.

Best wishes

Rob Burrough



ACS (International)

November 2014

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DID YOU KNOW ?

Bats always turn left when exiting a cave

NOTICES

Extended Library Hours for Year 4 and 6 Study

The school Library is now open for extended hours from 6.00 – 9.00pm on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for Year 4 and Year 6 students. It is supervised by senior staff and runs until the end of the examinations, subject to ongoing demand.

Year 1 Bioethics Workshop

Parents are advised that a large number of students from Year 1 will be attending a bioethics workshop on Genetic Engineering at the Science Centre during school time on 13 November 2014. The purpose of this workshop is to allow students to understand how science affects mankind and thus encourages them to make better ethical decisions in the future as well as to respect others' rational decisions.

Year 2 and 3: Camp Challenge 10-14 November 2014

All Year 2 and 3 students will be attending this camp next week. An exciting programme has been put together for the students. The vast majority of students are looking forward to the experience. Historically, however, we have a small minority who do not want to attend the camps and who turn up with Medical Certificates to support their absence. The school advises that we reserve the right to have our own medical doctor review the MC and the student's illness if we have doubts about the genuineness of the illness.

The camp will commence this coming Monday, 10 Nov. Please take note of the following:

1. Students are to report as usual to their House Tutor room location on Monday.
2. Students to wear the school's PE attire.
3. Students return by 1230 on Friday. They will be dismissed immediately.
4. Students are **not to bring their hand phones** to the camp as the camp will not be responsible for any thefts, dropping into water during water activities etc. During some activities it can be quite dangerous if students are distracted by hand phones. If they are found using their hand phone during the camp, it will be confiscated and returned on Friday. The camp organiser strongly discourages them from bringing hand phones.

Student Performs in Professional Production

Congratulations to Kathleen Teo (2TKK) who has a leading role in the Shakespeare production "A Midsummer Night's Dream" through the Cheng Academy. Kathleen is also undergoing training for an international ballet competition to be held in Tokyo, Japan in the first week of January 2015. We wish her well.

Dance Camp

ACS (International) Dance Camp will be held on 24 & 25 November 2014 @ Dance Studio. The Dance Camp is two days of intensive fun, fitness and performing arts that is always much-anticipated and which allows both members and non-members of the Dance Crew to enjoy the pure joy of learning and dancing. Students will have the opportunity to discover new and exciting styles, techniques and talents that may have been hidden behind their bedroom mirror. Participants will be exposed to various forms of dance styles such as breaking, street jazz, lyrical, whacking, and many more. The programme features bodywork as well as fitness recommendations! Dance Camp is an exciting journey to undertake regardless of whether the participant had prior dance experience at all. You never know what you might discover about yourself!



For more information please contact Deandra Muliawan, Year 5 or Teacher –in-charge:

Corinne.rousset@acsinternational.com.sg

Sitorus Library Returns

Please note the below arrangements:

All Year 1, 2, 3, 5 and Bridging Students: Please return all books by or before the DUE date stamped on the slip of paper issued with the Library book.

All Year 4 and 6 Students: Please note that the last day to return any borrowed item(s) and payment of fines is 14 November 2014.

All Students: Unpaid fines/cost of lost item(s) will be deducted from the Deposit.

Reminder: Any credit on EZ link / MRT / Passion cards must be claimed before 21 November by bringing the card to the Library Counter.

STUDENT SUCCESSES

National Youth Leaders' Award



Aimee Griffiths in Year 6 has been shortlisted as one of the top 5 finalists in Singapore for the National Youth Leaders' Award. Aimee was Deputy Head Girl and she has a very impressive leadership, service and CCA record. Twenty of our current leaders supported Aimee by attending the 2014 National Youth Leaders' Day seminar at Kallang Theatre on Wednesday.

A video documentary on each finalist's leadership experience was screened during the event, and online voting to select the final winner was initiated. Voting is open for two weeks from 5 November. She has to go through another round of panel interviews on 24 November. The final decision will be announced in December.

The video link summarising her leadership

http://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=3uNB0q_Svrc

The link to vote is:

<http://www.halogen.sg/home/what-we-do/awards/2014-finalists/>

You have to scroll down to the end of page to vote.



Aimee Griffiths

Vote Now! Aimee needs all of our support!



NATIONAL YOUNG LEADER AWARD FINALISTS 2014

Methodist Schools' Debate Cup 2014

On 18 October, our Debate Team took part in the debate competition organised by Anglo-Chinese Junior College, pitting their debating skills against other Methodist schools on the theme of 'War and Conflict'. The team members were: Dhruv Uppal (3GHK), Naveen Venkat (3THO), Nathan Ni Jing (3CKS), Ng Xuan Ning Anna (1THO), Chang Jen Ying Jade (1TCT).

The team made up for the loss of the prepared round by winning both their impromptu rounds which were challenging. Given an hour to prepare with their only resource being an almanac and a dictionary, they were victorious in both these rounds. In both impromptu rounds they proposed the motion: firstly 'This house would try capture terrorists in civilian courts instead of military tribunals' and secondly, the motion 'This house would impose a universal ban on nuclear weapons'. To our delight, Naveen was named Best Speaker in the first impromptu round and was overall ranked in the top ten speakers. Many congratulations, debaters!



Methodist Cup Debate Team 2014 (Anna, Jade, Naveen, Nathan, Dhruv)

Singapore National Youth Orchestra

Congratulations to Wee Hong Xuan Dylan and Wong Ho Khuen Abner who are currently members of the SNYO. They are performing in a number of public concerts in and around Singapore.

Australian Mathematics Competition

Forty nine of our students took part in the Australian Mathematics Competition recently. Seven were awarded distinction; 21 credit; and 20 proficiency certificates.

Distinction winners were: Zhang Ruiyang 1THO; Kwak Yu Jin 2TCT; Wu Jiaqi 2THO; Xue An Wen 3OLD; Ruan Jinglin 4OLD; Shi Bing Bing 4GHK; Xu Haonan 5LSG.

Rotary Club of Changi 'Outstanding Vocational Award' 2014

Congratulations to our Service Coordinator, Mrs Michelle Liew, who was presented with the above award recently for her outstanding contributions and activities in the Interact Club CCA and for her partnership with the Rotary Club of Changi.



Year 5 EE Support Sessions



A core requirement of the IB Diploma is the completion of an independent, self-directed piece of research totalling 4000 words that averages at 40 hours' worth of work. On 5 and 6 November Year 5 took part in two mornings of support sessions to inform their Extended

Essay preparations. On Day 1 the Findings Team, a group of external experts, covered key aspects of research methods such as statistical analysis and qualitative research. Day 2 saw groups divided into workshops in order to deal with subject-specific issues of the writing process. We hope that students benefitted from the different speakers' insights and one-to-one consultations. The next Checkpoint in the EE timeline will be on 12 November when students submit their refined research questions along with plans and bibliographies.

Science Group 4 Project 2014

The Group 4 Project in the IB programme is a platform which provides students with a collaborative experience involving all 4 Sciences (Chemistry / Physics / Biology and Sports, Exercise and Health Science). This year the theme for the entire Year 5 cohort was "Sustainability in ACS International". It was completed with great success on 10 October 2014 and the winner of the top project was the team with the project title "Sustainable Detergents for ACS".

The students in the team were Kajal Jaishikin Kirpalani (5 LSG), Nguyen Thi Hoang Anh (5 GHK), Phoon Wuei (5 SVM), Tan Chin Chean (5 TTK) and Tan Xuan Ying Risa (5 OLD). Tan Xuan Ying Risa was also the proud recipient of the Best Speaker award for Group 4 2014.



Stage 1: Planning



Stage 2: Action



Winning Team: Group 29



Stage 3: Evaluation



Amazing Science Challenge 2014

The Amazing Science Challenge is organised annually by the Singapore Science Centre, in collaboration with DSO National Laboratories (DSO) and National University of Singapore (NUS) and is opened to all national schools. This year, ACS (International), entered two groups of Lower Year students in the Secondary School category.

In Year 1 Karan Attal (1 OLD), Christopher Yoon (1CKS) and Jade Chan (1 SVM) designed two models to show parallel and series circuits.

In Year 2 Gabriel Ong (2 OLD), Amanda Yasmin Lam (2 LSG) and Wu Jiaqi (2 THO) made a model that illustrates the electromagnetic fields of various magnets by creating a glycerine filled acrylic set that contained iron filings. To make this model, the students spent many weekend hours in school to fine-tune their work.

Despite the fact that the two teams did not win in this competition, they responded positively that they have learnt much from participating and they will definitely be keen to go for another competition next year or provide advice and share their experience to future participating teams.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER	EVENT
6	• Year 5 Extended Essay writing workshop
7	• Year 5 Extended Essay writing workshop
10 - 14	• Year 2 + 3 Camp Challenge
11	• PSP Exco Meeting
13	• Year 1 Enrichment Programme on Bioethics to Science Centre
14	• Year 1 + 5 House Service Day
18	• 12:00-15:00 – Inter-House Drama
19	• 18:00-21:00 - Sports Awards Dinner
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 09:00 Year 1 – 5 Speech Day Prize Giving • 12:30 Staff Lunch/Farewells • 19:00 Year 6 Graduation
23	• School Prom Year 4+6

