

ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

**Dear Parents, Students and Friends**

The recent terrorist actions in Sri Lanka and New Zealand have horrified us all. It seems unbelievable that extremists would wilfully target civilians, women and children in order to further their cause. Terrorism perpetrated by extremists goes against all that civil society represents.

I was in Christchurch 2km away from the central city mosque when the shootings started. The central city shut down with little traffic on the roads apart from police cars racing by with sirens blaring. Radio and TV gave constant updates. Social media gave conflicting reports. All schools initiated lock-down procedures and students were retained at school and supervised by teachers until early evening. Initial social media reports indicated that there were at least four gunmen, two of whom were arrested as they attacked a local high school and another had fired shots at the main hospital’s Emergency Department. As the situation became clearer, it transpired that a lone gunman had targeted two mosques, that the “two gunmen” arrested at the high school were parents going to collect their child from the lock-down, and that the hospital had not been attacked. However, the spreading of misinformation ensured that the terrorist acts achieved one of the aims of spreading fear and uncertainty.

Some positive outcomes from the Christchurch tragedy included the country-wide coming together of different racial, religious and cultural groups in solidarity; the banning and collection of semi-automatic weapons; the evidence of strong and empathetic leadership by the Prime Minister; and the recognition that reliable social media is vital. International support was also heartening. As well as world leaders expressing their support, one tweet from a well-known Australian Anglican priest Father Rod Bower using the Muslim word “salam” (meaning peace) helped convey unity in grief across mainstream religions: “From Christ Church Gosford to #Christchurch New Zealand. Salam (peace) to the fallen. Salam to the injured. Salam to the grieving. Salam for our future.”

We should continue to strive for tolerance, openness, non-violence and intercultural harmony. Diversity is a strength. As it says in Galatians 3: 28, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

We will be holding a lock-down practice this term – we hope we never need to use it in reality – but like fire drills, we do need to be prepared.

Best wishes for the remaining three weeks of this term.

**Rob Burrough**  
Principal

- Appreciation Dinner for Outgoing Exco
- Religious Emphasis Week
- PPG Meetings
- Job-A-Like by Teachers for Teachers
- Term 3 Start Dates
- Year 5 CAS Service Trips Briefing
- Term 3 Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Casual Clothes Days in May
- Term 2 Academic Report
- Student Leaders’ Investiture
- Interact Club April Service Projects
- Foundation IB & Pre IB Students Get-Together
- International Students Committee’s Outing to Sentosa
- National Junior College Touch Championships 2019
- B Division Secondary Schools Touch Championships 2019
- National Biomechanics Day
- Singapore National Figure Skating Championships
- Upcoming Events



Brazil is named after a tree

## CHRISTIAN MINISTRY NEWS

### Appreciation Dinner for Outgoing Exco

Christian Fellowship treated its outgoing EXCO to an Appreciation Dinner on 5 April after our CF Meeting. It was an evening of food, fellowship and reflection for the EXCO who have bonded and grown as they served God together for one year. We are happy that a few have re-applied to serve again this year, and look forward to another year of service and growth together.



### Religious Emphasis Week

We held our Religious Emphasis Week in two sessions – 5 and 12 April – during Chapel. Our Chaplain, Rev. Joel Yong, spoke during the first session and Forerunner from Cru Singapore ministered to us on 12 April through testimony and song. Many were touched by the sharing. We will be conducting follow-up classes for those who responded.



### PPG Meetings

Our parents continue to uphold the school in prayer during PPG meetings. We are encouraged by alumni mothers who still fellowship with us and support our school in prayer even though their children have already graduated. Indeed, to God be the glory! The Best is Yet to Be!



## STAFF NEWS

### Job-A-Like by Teachers for Teachers

On 24 April, the ESOL faculty hosted a Job-A-Like (JAL) at our school. JALs are organised by teachers for teachers. Free for all to attend, these collaborative subject-specific sharing sessions between teachers provide opportunities for sharing best practice and resources. JALs also demonstrate that teachers use the attributes of the IB Learner Profile.



Eighteen IBDP English B educators from 10 local schools attended the two-hour session. We shared our experiences and knowledge about the changes to the new curriculum. There are significant changes to the assessment components and being able to practise using the marking criteria and then share feedback is valuable professional development. We value enhancing our skills in order to provide the best education for our students.

*Ms Jackson*  
ESOL Teacher



## NOTICES

## Term 3 Start Dates

*Monday and Tuesday, 1 and 2 July*

**Staff Days:** All staff to attend faculty CPD training at 8:00am.

*Tuesday, 2 July*

**New Admissions:** All new students to report to the Chapel for Welcome and Orientation III at 9:00am.

**Years 4 and 6:** Prelim examinations begin (note: examination timetable to be published within weeks). No lessons on 1 July.

*Wednesday, 3 July*

**Years 1, 2, 3, 1B, FIB, Pre IB and 5:** School begins at 8:00am.

## Year 5 CAS Service Trips Briefing

A briefing will be conducted for all parents/guardians and students who have signed up for each of the five service trips. Details as follows:

- Date: 9 May (Thursday)
- Time: 6-7pm
- Venue: *See table below*

*Information at a glance*

Destination	Dates (Duration)	Trip Leader	Venue
Laos	25 May–1 June (8 days)	Ms Delphine Esnault	OB-307 & 308
Malaysia	26 May–2 June (8 days)	Mr Thomas George	PH-201
Cambodia	26 May–3 June (9 days)	Ms Chantal Roux	PH-202
Vietnam	26 May–3 June (9 days)	Ms Claire Tan	SB-303
Zimbabwe	26 May–9 June (16 days)	Mr Francis Bell	LB-302

Each briefing will be conducted by the **Tour Manager** (except for Zimbabwe), and the Trip Teachers would be present as well. Details such as flights, itinerary, accommodation, packing list, insurance, and point of contact, would all be addressed.

## Term 3 Parent-Teacher Meetings

*For Year 4 & Year 6*

The school is organising a Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) on Wednesday, 31 July, in the Sports Hall from 4:30-8:30pm.

To help current Year 4 parents and students prepare for IBDP, two information sessions will be held in the Oldham Chapel. Families can choose to attend the 4:30–5:30pm or 7:00–8:00pm session, and join the PTMs after or before the session respectively.

*For Other Year Groups*

The next whole-school PTM will be held on Tuesday, 27 August, in the Sports Hall at the following times: 8:30am-12noon and 1:00-4:00pm.

To help current Year 2 parents and students prepare for IGCSE and with subject selection, we are holding two IGCSE information sessions in the Oldham Chapel. Families can choose to attend the 8:30–9:30am or 1:00–2:00pm session, following which they are free to join the PTM.

Please note that the morning PTM session tends to be busier, so parents with flexibility are advised to attend the afternoon session.

## Casual Clothes Days in May

To support the work of our service CAS trips, there will be two Casual Clothes Days held this term on 9 May and 16 May.

Students who dress in casual clothes need to provide a minimum \$2 donation to the CAS fundraiser, with all money going to those in need. Students are to note that the casual clothes they wear on these two days need to be appropriate for a Christian school environment.

## Term 2 Academic Report

The Term 2 Academic Report will be published on 22 May, the last Wednesday of Term 2. Parents may access the report from 22 May, under Academic Options in the Parent Portal.



## Student Leaders' Investiture

We congratulate the following school leaders on their appointments to the 15<sup>th</sup> Prefectorial Board at the annual Student Leaders' Investiture on Wednesday, 24 April.



### 15th Prefectorial Board

Name	House	Preference
Benjamin Ong Keng Hwee	5 OLD	Head Boy
Megan Man	5 TTK	Head Girl
Madeline Choi Yu-Jin	5 TCT	Deputy Head (Amb)
Elizabeth Loo	5 THO	Deputy Head (Council)
Sheryl Tan Yen Pin	5 TCT	Deputy Head (SA)
Michelle Choo Wei Yee	5 CKS	Head of House/Secretary
Andrew Hu Zhao-An	5 OLD	Ambassadors
Anya Anil Mahtani	5 OLD	Ambassadors
Hasha Samarasekera	5 LSG	Ambassadors
Jiaying Lim	5 LSG	Ambassadors
Neo Su Hui Ruth	5 OLD	Ambassadors
Nguyen Hien Minh Trang	5 LSG	Ambassadors
Nicole Chung Mae Sze	5 TCT	Ambassadors
Park Hyunjin	5 TCT	Ambassadors
Ren Yiting (Emily)	5 TTK	Ambassadors
Renee Ng	5 SVM	Ambassadors
Saniya Rohit Jamwal	5 LSG	Ambassadors
Shreaya Suresh Kumar	5 OLD	Ambassadors
Tian Jiahao (Tom)	5 GHK	Ambassadors
Ui Ogino	5 CKS	Ambassadors
Wang Rui Ming (Mary)	5 OLD	Ambassadors
Chow Yan Cheng	5 THO	Ambassadors
Caitlin Chng Shi Ern	5 LSG	Council
Chang Tunmin (Dina)	5 CKS	Council
Dahnya Kamal Sandhu	5 TCT	Council
Emily Elizabeth Kriebisch	5 CKS	Council
Jaelle Khoo Jia Yi	5 GHK	Council
Judith Ho Han Lin	5 LSG	Council
Justin Setiawan	5 SVM	Council
Nandini Kulkarni	5 GHK	Council
Natalie Tan Weng I	5 TCT	Council
Rhea Chalak	5 SVM	Council
Shu Luoandi (Andy)	5 LSG	Council
Yang Jiwon (Dan)	5 OLD	Council
Alyna Lim Su-Li	5 OLD	Student Affairs
Ayushi Lahiry	5 THO	Student Affairs
Devlin Nathan Waluja	5 THO	Student Affairs
Doris Wang	5 LSG	Student Affairs
Nicolle Tan Jia Ying	5 CKS	Student Affairs
Rachel Sim Yu Xuan	5 OLD	Student Affairs
Rishikesh Puhalanthi	5 TCT	Student Affairs
Ryan Lee	5 GHK	Student Affairs
Sanjeevani Sriram	5 LSG	Student Affairs
Tessa Loke E-Shyen	5 CKS	Student Affairs
Yuka Nakamura	5 OLD	Student Affairs
Zheng Hanyu (Anna)	5 TCT	Student Affairs
Hannah Kek Yi Hui	5 CKS	House Captain
Indah Tjahjowidodo	5 GHK	House Captain
Manishaa Kaur	5 LSG	House Captain
James Zhao	5 OLD	House Captain
Mehar Taneja	5 SVM	House Captain
Riya Sanjeev	5 TCT	House Captain
Lu Peihan	5 THO	House Captain
Aarthy Nary	5 TTK	House Captain





## EVENTS &amp; ACTIVITIES

## Interact Club April Service Projects

*Paper Recycling in Term 2*

To continue our efforts to slowly work towards becoming a “Zero Waste School”, our Interact Club students embarked on our first school-wide Paper Recycling Campaign for 2019 on 5 April. Our enthusiastic students went around the school to collect the recycle boxes from all the staff and sorted out the papers diligently.



In a new collaboration with our school’s helpful cleaners, the papers were then put into the big green recycle bins in our school and would be sold to a waste management company. The money received will go to Mr Tan, one of the needy families that we visit on a monthly basis. Our students felt really proud that they were able to help our school reduce its carbon footprint and help out a needy family at the same time.



A big THANK YOU to all staff who contributed generously to our first 2019 Paper Recycling Campaign!

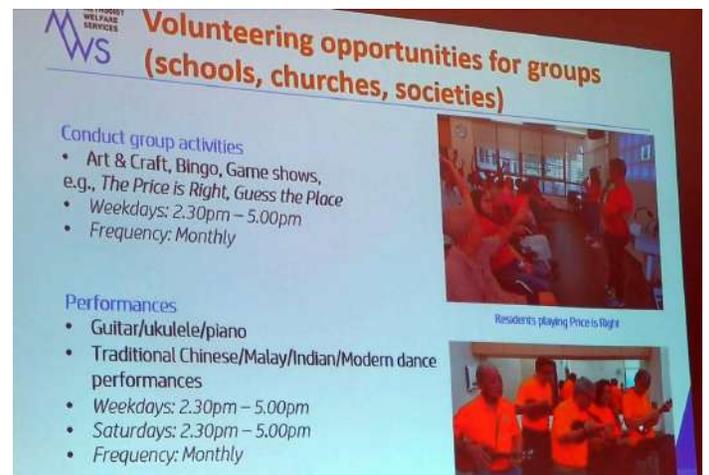
*Yew Tee Nursing Home Visit*

In our goal to engage in more service work beyond our school, 10 of our spritely Year 5 Interactors got together on a Friday afternoon on 12 April to visit Yew Tee Nursing Home, a beneficiary under the Methodist Welfare Services.



Our students had the opportunity to tour the facility and to engage in a discussion with the Centre Manager to plan suitable service activities for the elderly patients in the Home.

It was a great learning experience, and we hope to return again in Term 3 to carry out these meaningful service activities. So watch this space!



*Interact Club Student EXCO Committee*



### Home Visit

On 5 April, the Interact Club students visited Ms Julia's new home at Mei Ling Street with groceries for her family. They were filled with anticipation and were eager to offer their services in helping her with the unpacking and cleaning of her new home.

Ms Julia's son, Danny, was at home and our students were keen to engage him in a conversation, knowing that he was in a new neighbourhood with few friends. They listened intently as he described his experiences in life and shared how he overcame those adversities.

Our students cleaned up the floor, windows and fridge and are looking forward to helping her beautify the new home with their art pieces.

All the best to Ms Julia at her new abode and we are glad we can be part of this significant journey.



*Ms Michelle Liew  
Teacher-in-charge, Interact Club*

## Foundation IB and Pre IB Students Get-Together

On 18 April, the Foundation IB and Pre IB students were treated to ice-cream as part of the ACS (International)'s student support programme. The get-together allowed the students an opportunity to interact with each other outside of classes and to meet informally with key personnel involved in their programme at the school.

The purpose of the get-together is to allow students to share and discuss their experiences so far at ACS (International) and for the leaders of the programme to gather feedback from the students. We heard how our international students had settled into their new environment and about the differences they had experienced in their first few months. It also provided an opportunity for our Singaporean students to talk about the changes they had noticed between ACS (International) and their previous school.

Though our get-together was only for a short time, both the students and teachers enjoyed the opportunity to have a chat over some quality ice-cream.



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS NEWS

### International Students Committee's Outing to Sentosa

The International Students Committee (ISC) embarked on their very first outing to Sentosa on 28 April. The outing lasted from 9am to 3pm, and was one that the students will never forget.

A few adventurous students from the group of 14 decided to start off with a walk to Sentosa Island from their meeting place at Vivo City. The walk was 600m long. Despite the high humidity and heat, the students enjoyed the walk and took photos with the magnificent view of Sentosa Island as the backdrop.

At about 10:30am, we arrived at Siloso Beach. To break the ice, we had a warm-up session by playing "monkey" game. It was a short but simple game and was a great way to prepare the group for a volleyball match. The match was not rigorous as it encouraged friendly competition among teammates, so many students were able to foster sufficient camaraderie during the games.

The outing ended off with a sumptuous lunch at a *Kopitiam* (a local food court), where we bought a variety of cuisines from different stalls and chatted with their teacher in-charge, Mdm Chin, about our plans for the ISC during the year, which included local and several overseas trips.

In conclusion, the first outing was not only significant in building strong rapport among the students, it also acted as a stepping stone for the ISC to plan for future similar events that are of high regard for them. Surely, the outing was an amazing success for the ISC which was able to maintain diversity among all students in ACS (International).

*Hasha Samarasekera, 5 LSG*



"Although it is the first time we conducted an event outside of the school as a team, we planned well and the activity was indeed successful in general. Everyone had a lot of fun at Sentosa island playing beach volleyball and enjoying the view of the sea."

*Lance Cai Linshan, 5 GHK*

"Being new to the ISC, this event was helpful in getting to know more about the committee members. We had fun relaxing at the beach, playing volleyball and having lunch together!"

*Arnav Parag Salkade, 5 TKK*

"We knew our teammates well and enjoyed a lot from this outing and worked as a group. Also we had fun together when playing on the beach."

*Lu Yi, 5 SVM*

"Though we weren't well equipped, the weather was a little hot, and the time was a little short, we were in good company and had fun."

*Jakob Yoong, 5 CKS*



## SPORTS NEWS

## National Junior College Touch Championships 2019

Following the U16 and U19 ACSIS Touch Rugby fixtures, the girls formed one squad to train for the annual National Junior College Touch Championships 2019 which was held over two weeks. It was fantastic to see a range of students from Years 3 to 6 collaborating together.

After winning the first three matches against Jurong Pioneer JC, Anderson Serangoon JC and National JC, the team put themselves in a good position on the ladder. However, with defeats against the undefeated Hwa Chong Institution and St Andrew's Junior College, the girls had to win the remaining games to stand a chance of making to the finals.

With a convincing win over Raffles Institution and further victories over SJI International and Nangyang JC, the team made it to the finals for the first time. This saw the team compete against Hwa Chong once again. After an exhilarating game on 17 April, ACS (International) unfortunately just missed out on the gold medal with a 3-2 defeat. It was great seeing the girls show great determination throughout the season and they should be very proud with their silver medals.

Congratulations to the whole team and a special thanks to Tricia Pang (6 LSG) for her excellent leadership throughout the season.



## B Division Secondary Schools Touch Championships 2019

ACS (International) hosted the annual B Div Secondary Schools Touch Championships on 22 April. One team from Years 2, 3 and 4 assembled to try and retain their title from 2018. After a fun afternoon with a total of six games, the girls won the competition convincingly and retained the title for another year.

Congratulations to Zoe Breen (2 CKS) who was awarded the tournament's Most Valuable Player.



## National Biomechanics Day

On 10 April, the Year 5 IB Sports Exercise and Health Science class made a trip to the Sports Hub for the National Biomechanics Day. The students were led by professional Sports Science lecturers and PhD students to take part in a range of activities. They thoroughly enjoyed participating in the practical workshop learning about the fundamentals of biomechanics and even got a glimpse of the Welsh 7s Rugby team in training. The students left the venue feeling inspired and have had their eyes opened to the possibilities of working within this subject area.



## Singapore National Figure Skating Championships

Year 2 student Claire Chung (2 Thoburn) participated in the Singapore National Figure Skating Championships in Basic Novice category with 18 other competitors from around the world and Singapore. It was her first Nationals. This year saw the largest number of 176 entries in the history of Singapore National Figure Skating Championships, indicating that the sport is picking up here.

Claire has worked hard and pushed herself to move up two categories since last August. She and her coaches have already started to work on the inter-school competition which will be held in late July.

We wish Claire success in her upcoming competition.



Photo courtesy of Ms Mabel Ewing-Chow

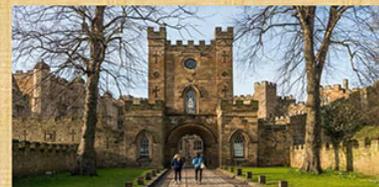


## UPCOMING EVENTS

May	Event
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by Durham University (12:10–12:45)</li> </ul>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group 4 IA – Launch (15:00–18:00)</li> </ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundraiser – Casual Clothes Day (All Day)</li> <li>• Informal US Universities Information Session by Mrs Rita Kaur (12:10–12:45)</li> <li>• Inter-House Music Recordings (TKK, SVM, Thoburn, GHK) (15:30–17:30)</li> </ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by Manchester Metropolitan University (12:10–12:45)</li> <li>• Inter-House Music Recordings (CKS, Oldham, LSG, TCT) (15:30–17:30)</li> </ul>
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing Effective Personal Statement and Essays (CKS, GHK) (15:15–16:45)</li> </ul>
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing Effective Personal Statement and Essays (LSG, Oldham) (15:15–16:45)</li> </ul>
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by NYU Abu Dhabi (12:10–12:45)</li> <li>• Group 4 IA – Action Phase (15:00–18:00)</li> <li>• Writing Effective Personal Statement and Essays (SVM, TCT) (15:15–16:45)</li> </ul>
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundraiser – Casual Clothes Day (All Day)</li> <li>• Writing Effective Personal Statement and Essays (TKK, Thoburn) (15:15–16:45)</li> </ul>
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACS Combined Prayer Meetings (08:00–09:00)</li> </ul>
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vesak Day – SCHOOL CLOSED</li> </ul>
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Term 2 Commendations Assembly</li> <li>• Term 2 Academic Report published</li> </ul>
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group 4 IA – Evaluation Phase (12:50–15:00)</li> </ul>
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of Term 2 – Lesson ends at 15:00</li> </ul>

## University Visits In School

**Durham University**  
**Tuesday, 07 May**  
**12.10 pm –12.45 pm**  
**Presentation at the Library**



Source: <https://getnorth2018.com>



Source: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/>

**London School Of Economics and Political Science (LSE)**  
**Wednesday, 08 May**  
**12.10 pm –12.45 pm**  
**Presentation at the Library**

**Manchester Metropolitan Uni**  
**Friday, 10 May**  
**12.10 pm –12.45 pm**  
**Booth in the school canteen**



Source: <https://www.studiesplanet.com>



Source: <https://nyad.mvu.edu>

**New York University, Abu Dhabi**  
**Wednesday, 15 May**  
**12.10 pm –12.45 pm**  
**Booth in the school canteen**

## Higher Education and Careers

### 2019 Important Dates

Parents/Guardians, please take note of the compulsory attendance for the following events organised by the Higher Education Department.

#### Writing Effective Personal Statement and Essays for Year 6

Date: 13–16 May  
 Time: 3:15pm–4:45pm  
 Year 6 cohort

#### University Application Session for Year 6

Date: 13 July  
 Time: 8:00am–2:00pm  
 Year 6 cohort – Parents and Guardians are encouraged to attend.





ACS (International) Philharmonic Orchestra  
presents

# VIVA LA MUSICA



**Date:** 18 August 2019, Sunday  
**Time:** 4:30pm  
**Venue:** Victoria Concert Hall



Ticket Price: **\$10** (Free Seating)  
Door Opens at 4:00pm

— — — — —

Please get your tickets from  
Front Office or email to  
[APO@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:APO@acsinternational.edu.sg)

ACS (International)  
Philharmonic Orchestra  
presents  
**Viva la Musica!**

This year's concert, Viva la Musica!, features a wide variety of music across time, ranging from classical music such as Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Violins in D Major and Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony, to contemporary hits like Video Games Live!, Kiki's Delivery Service of Studio Ghibli fame, as well as jazzy medleys from Duke Ellington.

Our guest performers, Contemporary Singers, will perform a selection of familiar favourites from Disney Movie.

Viva la Musica! will be held in the prestigious halls of Victoria Concert Hall on Sunday, 18 August at 4:30pm. See poster on the left for details.

