



## ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

### **Dear Parents, Students and Friends**

Next Tuesday is a public holiday in recognition of Deepavali – the Hindu Festival of Lights. The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. The festival is marked with fireworks, lamps and candles plus the sharing of food and gifts. We wish all Hindu families a Happy Deepavali.

There are obvious similarities between Deepavali and some aspects of the Christian festivals of Christmas and Easter. Christians also celebrate the victory of good over evil, of light overcoming the darkness, and enjoy the sharing of food and gifts. There is power, significance and relevance in being a member of a "faith community".

We are all made in the image of God and we are all called to love and respect each other, no matter what our personal beliefs are. As Jesus says in John 13: 34-35 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

This is the second-to-last newsletter of the year. The last will be published at the end of term in three weeks' time and among other items it will contain prize winners' names, important dates for next year, an acknowledgement of leaving staff and other general information.

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 nearly completed their end-of-year internal examinations with teachers about to return scripts, and give follow-up lessons, from next Wednesday. The final school reports will include feedback on the examinations and the whole year's work, and will be distributed straight after Speech Day.

We look forward to celebrating the 2018 school year and acknowledging some of the many student successes this year at the final Speech Day Prize Giving and Year 6 Graduation ceremony to be held on Friday, 16 November.

### Best wishes

Rob Burrough

#### IN THIS ISSUE

- Christian Ministry News
- End of Year Dates
- Sale of Books and Uniform and Cut-Off Date for Formal Wear Orders
- Clearing Lockers
- Blazer Donation
- Sitorus Library Returns
- Extended Library Hours for Years 4 & 6 Study
- ACS Echo
- Next Issue
- Adventure/Service Camps 2019
- Year 1 Student Clinches First Prize at Piano Competition
- Year 1 Architectural Model Design Project
- Parents' Workshop: Decoding the Teenage Years
- Rice-ing to the Occasion
- Year 5 IB Theatre Collaborative Project
- Choice To Run 2018
- Mid-Autumn Festival Mooncake
   Making Workshop
- Upcoming Events



## **CHRISTIAN MINISTRY NEWS**

The Christian Ministry from the Chaplain's office has recently added a 1-minute devotion reading every Thursday that is shared just after the recitation of the Singapore National Pledge. The purpose is to allow us to start our day with the Scriptures as it is often quoted from the Bible that, "People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God".

Stay tuned for more in 2019.

## **NOTICES**

## **End of Year Dates**

		End of Year Key Dates	
25 October – 5 November	• Years 1,2, 3, 5, FIB and Pre-IB: End of Year Exams and Teacher Marking Day. Students only attend school for their exam papers		
6 November	• Deepa	avali Public Holiday: School closed	
7–9 November	• Year 5	1, 2, 3, FIB & Pre-IB: Normal school programme and regular classes 5: Normal classes except when required for English formal IOC Internal Assessment (at some on 8 & 9 Nov)	
12 & 13 November	<ul> <li>Year 5 IB: Science Formal Internal Assessment all day</li> <li>Years 1, 2, 3, FIB and Pre-IB: Activity Programme (Service/Nature Walk) 8:00am–12 noon (Students are free during the afternoon)</li> <li>Note: On Tuesday 13 November, all Year 2 students to remain at school for Shakespeare workshop conducted by the Singapore Repertory company (TBC)</li> <li>Uniform: School uniform unless participating in the following:         <ul> <li>Service – House T shirt</li> <li>Nature Walk – PE kit</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
14 November	<ul> <li>Year 5: Formal IB assessment continues</li> <li>House T shirts to be worn</li> <li>FIB and Pre-IB interviews for IBDP 2019 with senior staff (9:00am–12noon)</li> <li>Years 1, 2, 3, FIB &amp; Pre-IB In-school activities (show House films of previous 2 days and a movie) (9:00am–12noon)</li> <li>Inter-House Tug-of-War (1:00pm–3:00pm)</li> </ul>		
	9:00am	All students report to Tutor Rooms <i>in uniform</i> for Tidy Up, clear lockers, final words, etc	
	9:30am	Final School Assembly	
15 November	10:30am	Speech Day rehearsal (only students who are performing or receiving awards are required; other students may leave)	
	1:30pm	Graduation rehearsal/sound check, etc	
	8:15am	Students report to Tutor Room in Formal Attire	
16 November	9:00am	<ul> <li>Speech Day ceremony begins</li> <li>School reports to be issued after Speech Day then students free to leave for holidays</li> </ul>	
	5:30pm	• Graduation	
17 November	7:00pm	Year 6 Prom, Carlton Hotel	
19 & 20 November	• Teach	er Only Days	

# Sale of Books and Uniform and Cut-Off Date for Formal Wear Orders

All students are to take note of the information as follows: *Popular Bookstore* 

#### **Books**

Date	Business Hours	Venue
17-21 December 2018 26-28 December 2018 2 January 2019	Mondays to Fridays 9am-4pm [Closed on 24 and 31 December 2018, Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays]	School Bookshop

#### Bibi&Baba Pte Ltd

#### Uniform

Student Year	Date	Business Hours	Venue
All Years	2 January 2019	10am-3pm	Outside
Year 1	3 and 4 January 2019	10am-4pm	Outside School Bookshop
Years 2 to 6	7 and 21 January 2019	10am-4pm	Βυσκεπορ

#### Formal Wear (Compulsory for Founder's Day on 1 March 2019)

Last Order Date	Delivery Date	Contact Details
13 January 2019	26 and 27 February 2019	Sandy/Pauline 6271 9248

## **Clearing Lockers**

All students must empty their lockers by 15 November and leave their key in the locker. The locks in all lockers will be changed. Any gear left in the lockers will be removed and given to charity.

## **Blazer Donation**

Leaving students are requested to donate their old school blazers to the school for "recycling". They can deposit their blazer at the front office for the PSP to dry-clean and on-sell.

## Sitorus Library Returns

## Years 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. You can borrow books for the holidays after settling your outstanding fines.

#### Years 4 and 6 Students

Please note that the last day to return any borrowed item(s) and pay outstanding fines is 9 November.

#### **All Students**

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

### Students who are leaving

Any credit on EZ link / MRT / Passion cards must be claimed before 16 November by bringing the card to the Library Counter.

# Extended Library Hours for Years 4 & 6 Study

The school library is still open for extended hours till 8:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for Years 4 and 6 students. It is supervised by senior staff and runs until 13 November, subject to ongoing demand. There will be light refreshments provided by the PSP.

## **ACS Echo**

The October–November 2018 issue of ACS Echo magazine has arrived. Parents and students who would like a copy may pick one up from the General Office reception.

## **Next Issue**

- Staff changes 2019
- Start of year arrangements 2019
- 2019 Calendar



## Adventure/Service Camps 2019

In the last week of Term 1, ACS (International) will be offering five different camps to students in Years 1 to 3, Foundation IB and Pre IB. This replaces the traditional end-of-year camps. Years 4 to 6 will be undertaking Academic Camps during this time. The details of the compulsory adventure/ service camps are as follows:

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To provide an opportunity to <a href="https://example.com/have-fun">have fun</a> with friends and try new activities
- To provide students with experience of outdoor education and community service
- To develop a sense of independence, self-confidence, bravery and achievement
- To enhance problem-solving skills
- To prepare students with skills to complete the NYAA

## Year 1

Venue	Date	Activities	Cost
Singapore (inbound)	6–8 March 2019	<ul> <li>Rock climbing</li> <li>Star Wars' Saber dueling experience</li> <li>Fishing session</li> <li>Exploration at Coney Island/Southern Ridges</li> <li>Amazing race</li> <li>Ice skating</li> </ul>	S\$390



## Year 2

Venue	Date	Activities	Cost
Telunas Resort, Sugi Island, Indonesia Located in a secluded cove surrounded by jungle and sea. 1 hour to Batam, 1.5 hours to Sugi Island.	5–8 March 2019	<ul> <li>Raft building</li> <li>Low ropes and team building activities</li> <li>Pottery</li> <li>Jungle hike/waterfall</li> <li>Shrimping</li> <li>Community service/village tour</li> <li>Pizza/movie by the beach/ bonfire</li> <li>Deck jumping</li> </ul>	S\$560





## Year 3, Foundation IB and Pre IB

## **OPTION 1**

Venue	Date	Activities	Cost
Tioman Island, Malaysia	5–8 March 2019	<ul> <li>Swim test/ice breakers</li> <li>Snorkelling</li> <li>Service learning: Juara Turtle project and Suka suka farm         <ul> <li>agricultural project</li> </ul> </li> <li>Kayaking</li> <li>Camp dinner/beach party</li> <li>Jetty jump</li> <li>Waterfall and rainforest trek</li> <li>Coco house</li> </ul>	S\$820





## **OPTION 2**

Venue	Date	Activities	Cost
Thailand	5–8 March 2019	<ul> <li>Giant slider</li> <li>Rope walk</li> <li>Floating platform run</li> <li>Zipline</li> <li>Rafting</li> <li>Tower jump</li> <li>Mangrove wildlife cruise</li> <li>Firefly cruise</li> <li>Mudboard surfing</li> <li>Service learning at Wat Prasit Primary School</li> </ul>	S\$990





#### **OPTION 3**

Venue	Date	Activities	Cost
Cameron Highlands, Malaysia	5–8 March 2019	<ul> <li>Camping</li> <li>Trekking</li> <li>Kayaking</li> <li>Camp dinner</li> <li>White water rafting</li> </ul>	S\$810



## **Reminders:**

- \*Any student who needs a visa must obtain one at their own cost\*
- Please make sure you are holding a passport with a validity date for more than 6 months from the arrival date.
- ▶ Consent forms are to be handed in to the General Office by 8 November 2018.
- Year 3 STUDENTS: State your first and second choices. Note that each camp option has a cap/maximum number of students who can go. 'First come first serve' basis.
- ▶ Camp fees are included in the school fees; so there is no need for separate payment.



#### STUDENT SUCCESSES

# Year 1 Student Clinches First Prize at Piano Competition

Congratulations to our Year 1 student, Larissa Chan (1 SVM), for clinching the first prize in the Asian Composers category at the prestigious Hong Kong-Asia Piano Open competition.

The grand finals of the competition was held in Hong Kong from 1-4 October. All grand finalists were chosen from preliminary selection rounds held in their own countries and participating countries this year included Korea, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, among others.

This competition is considered one of the most competitive and influential international piano competitions, with the world famous Chinese classical pianist, Li Yundi, winning third prize in the Open Class category in 1996. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the competition.

Larissa chose to enter the competition with her own composition entitled "A New Beginning" which was inspired by her new and exciting experiences as a Year 1 student at ACS (International).

"It's my first time participating in an international piano competition and it's certainly an eye opener to witness performances of such high standards from all the participants. I am truly overwhelmed to win first prize and I thank all my music teachers for guiding, encouraging and motivating me all these years, especially Teacher Evelyn. I am inspired to continue composing music that will touch the hearts and souls of many and I thank God for His blessings. I hope that I can always glorify Him through my music."

Larissa's piano teacher, Ms Evelyn Soon, has been teaching her since Larissa was four years old and has been a dedicated and loving mentor. She also accompanied Larissa to Hong Kong to support her in the competition. "During her performance, Larissa kept all distractions away and was fully immersed in her music. Her sophisticated performance impressed the judges and won her first prize in the category. I am very proud of her. This invaluable experience has definitely boosted her confidence and inspired her to reach for greater heights!"









## Year 1 Architectural Model Design Project

On 23 October, the Year 1 Architectural model design project for a youth learning centre culminated with an award ceremony. There were a total of 10 awards – for Creativity, Sustainability, X-Factor, Overall Top Design prize, and Most Popular Vote.

The project, launched in Term 2, was a collaboration with SAA architectural firm, of which Mr Albert Liang the key architect has been working with the students and staff of the Art department as the consultant for and the judge of the project.

The students visited a supposedly site behind "Lush on Holland Hill" condominium to gather information, built site models to have a contextual understanding of the place, researched, planned, designed and built their models with cardboards and recycled materials. Working in groups of 3 or 4 members, they learnt about perspectives, scale, space and communication and considered factors such as function, sustainability, aesthetics, as well as incorporating the terrain and nature in their designs.

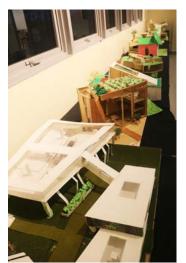
This project saw many creative outcomes, some with interesting materials and interpretation of spaces. Through this project, the students have become more aware of their living spaces and learnt to appreciate their environment.

Click <u>here</u> to view a video compiled for this project.



Exhibition of Year 1 Architectural Models







Other Winning Entries



Mr Albert Liang – Architect from SAA Architects PTE LTD



#### **PSP NEWS**

# Parents' Workshop: Decoding the Teenage Years

Teen mental wellness and health has rapidly become one of the foremost challenges facing parents and guardians of young people. Borrowing the title of Dr Carol Balhetchet's best-selling book, "Dr Delinquent- Decoding the Teenage Years", this year's workshop held on 13 October on a Saturday morning was organised in the hopes of creating awareness and a better understanding of common conditions affecting teenagers today and their symptoms.



It was an honour and privilege to have clinical psychologist, Dr Carol, share her insights and experiences at ACS (International). Dr Carol has spent more than 20 years with the social service sector, schools and the private sector, counselling and caring for troubled or atrisk children and teens. She is currently at Chen Su Lan Methodist Children's Home, where she takes care of the mental health of 80 boys and girls.

We had a good turnout of 60 parents/guardians and we were also joined by our Principal Mr Rob Burrough, Vice Principal Dr Kris Achter, Guidance Counsellor Ms Chantal Roux and Learning Support Specialist Ms Adina Wong. Although it was a very heavy and sensitive topic, Dr Carol was able to share some of her experiences, give us invaluable parenting tips and make us laugh. After her presentation, parents inundated her with hard-hitting questions. She was able to address all our concerns, admonish us, encourage us and let us know we are not alone. All her books on sale were snapped up and Dr Carol signed them for us.

PSP would like to thank Dr Carol for sharing her time with us despite her extremely busy schedule and all parents/guardians who attended our workshop. We hope it was helpful to you as it was for us.

"It was a most enlightening session. My key takeaway is that every child is different – as parents, we can only do our best to love them."

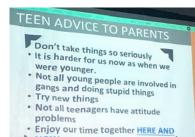
Heidi Heng, Parent of Year 6 student

"My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. Dr Carol shared a lot of practical ideas related to bringing up children in an increasingly complex and uncertain environment. Thank you PSP for organising this."

Frank Koo, Parent of Year 6 student









## **ALUMNI NEWS**

## Rice-ing to the Occasion



Former student Lincoln Lee (Class of 2015 and ex-6TKK) was presented with \$USD1,000,000 by former US President Bill Clinton recently. Lincoln made us proud when he and his team, Rice Inc (formerly known as SunRice), won the Hult Prize, at Hult Prize Global Finals at the United Nations headquarters. Lincoln's team – from University College London – included Kisum Chan, Julia Vannaxay and Vannie Koay. In the photo on the right, Lincoln is at far left.

This year's challenge required the participants to build a social enterprise using "energy innovations" to transform the lives of 10 million people by 2025. The challenge attracted some 100,000 college and graduate students from 121 countries. Competing with five teams at the finals, Lincoln and his team convinced the judges of their green energy rice-drying project, with a six-minute long presentation.

Presented by former US President, Bill Clinton (the Hult Prize was previously associated with the Clinton Global Initiative), they walked away with \$1 million prize money – their reward for putting together an environmentally-friendly business project aimed at doing good in the world in the past nine months. Each year, the prize provides seed money for start-ups designed to improve lives.

On why rice is a topic of interest: "We're all from Asia, and rice is a staple of our diet, as it is throughout Asia," says Lincoln, Co-Founder of Rice Inc. When he and his team learned that up to 30% of rice from underdeveloped regions goes to waste, they wondered how that could be — and how they could change that. Their plan promises to increase rice production in Southeast Asia and raise the incomes of rice farmers. They would accomplish this through the use of energy efficient rice-drying and storage technology.

We congratulate Lincoln and his team on their meaningful win and wish them all the best.

For more information on the event and the rice plan of Lincoln's team, click <u>here</u>.

Adapted from "It's Rice Vs. Seaweed Vs. Solar ATMs For A \$1 Million Prize", www.npr.org



#### A note about Lincoln Lee

Lincoln Lee, one of our most outstanding students, was an extremely conscientious student who made many commendable contributions to the school. A member of ACS Envoy Club, Lincoln participated in a number of Model United Nations conferences held in Asia and had been voted most diplomatic delegate and best advocate team. He also contributed articles to the school's Envoy magazine and participated in Thinkers Day, a young leaders' forum organised by students from ACS, attended by a number of schools from across Singapore.

Lincoln was President of the Ambassadors from 2014-2015 and was a shortlisted finalist for the Singapore National Young Leader Award (NYLA) 2015.

### A message from Rice Inc

We are a team of undergraduates from around the world and diverse backgrounds all united with one common purpose – to build a world where no grain is wasted!

If you are passionate about food security, agriculture or you just love rice – get in touch with us at <a href="mailto:sunrice.nrg@gmail.com">sunrice.nrg@gmail.com</a>





#### **EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS**

## Year 5 IB Theatre Collaborative Project

On 17 October, Year 5 IB Theatre presented their collaborative pieces. Their aim was to create and present an original piece of theatre (lasting 13-15 minutes) to a specified target audience from a starting point selected by the ensemble. All students had to approach this task in the role of collaborative creators of original theatre within an ensemble.

## Group 1: Siobhan Doyle, Eriel Pang, Nikita Pateloo and Hongli Zen

Their story-telling, inspired by the theatre company *Punchdrunk* led us down a thought-provoking road in which the audience's perception of the piece was open to interpretation, leaving them questioning and at times bewildered. It was a sensory overload and the audience were on full alert especially when they realised they were very much part of the experiment!







Nikita Pateloo – lost and alone



Eriel Pang leading audience feedback session

## Group 2: Jaegar Hong, Joshua Robinson and Russell Tan

Their piece was inspired by the theatre company *Told by an Idiot* in which the protagonist entered a cathartic voyage of self discovery. With the help of an eccentric genie and an annoying friend, they eventually led him to question his own existence. This was a complete contrast compared to the other showcase, leaving the audience laughing and entertained throughout.



Russell Tan & Joshua Robinson: A fake death



Jaegar Hong is not happy at all



Joshua Robinson leading audience feedback session

Over the last few months, the class has been working extremely hard and their efforts proved a success not only in their performances but also facilitating ways of capturing audience responses. They should be very proud of their dedication and efforts and we look forward to being inspired by their future IB projects.

Thanks to all students and teachers who attended the evening.



## Choice To Run 2018

Choice To Run has become an annual charity event organised by the Ambassadors. This year, we were joined by HVMC and PSP to create a bigger impact. At around 8am on 29 September, people started to gather at the Sports Hall. With the sun shining brightly outside, everyone was energised by Mrs Tan's Opening Speech and Mr Patterson's fun warm up session with the "Baby Shark" dance.

We started on a high note and everyone ran as hard as they could despite the sweltering heat, knowing very well that each step they made would add up to the donation that they can collect for Children's Cancer Foundation. Besides the run, there were game booths, including combat style laser tag games and a dunking booth.

There were plenty of captivating performances to watch, from school talents, Sara, Nikita and our local K-Pop group, Eloquence. Furthermore, there were performances byexternal talents such as Elaine Chan, Zueol Leo and Vanessa.

Last but not least, it was time for the long awaited colour fiesta – a frenzy of colours and laughter! Everyone was throwing colour powder at anybody they knew and was having a wonderful time, leaving behind beautiful coloured patterns on their clothing, showing the theme for this year's run "Colours of Life".

The event was an exhilarating and joyous occasion. Even during one of the most stressful periods of the year, people from all walks of life still found a moment to run for a good cause and found some form of relaxation and fun. And the most important of all, we raised \$19,815. Special mention on Mr Francis Bell who won the Fastest Runner Award, and Michael Buchanan and Thanakhom Hoontrakul who both won Top Fundraiser Award, each raising \$3,000 and \$3,500 respectively.

Till we run again.













## Mid-Autumn Festival Mooncake Making Workshop

On 24 September, the day of the Mooncake Festival this year, two Year 2 Foreign Chinese classes of 30 in total, taught by Ms Heng and Ms Yang, attended a Mooncake Making Workshop.



Our instructor, Mdm Lim, showed us how to make snow skin lotus paste mooncakes. She was clear, kind and understanding. She demonstrated how the ingredients were measured, as well as shared the recipe of putting it all together. After that,

she let us try it for ourselves and gave us specific instructions on how to shape and mould the mooncakes.



Prior to this workshop, I didn't know how this delicious delicacy was created even though it has always been my favourite snack during this time of the year. With this workshop, I feel that I am really immersed into Chinese culture and I am now proud to be able to make this sumptuous treat.



On my way home, I bought all the necessary ingredients. Using what I had learned that day, I made snow skin mooncake for my family! I had a really fun experience, and definitely would recommend this activity for everyone.

Emmanuel Carter 2 Oldham



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

November	EVENT
5	SCHOOL CLOSED, Staff Day (08:00-15:00)
6	Deepavali
7	• Open Classroom for Years 1,2,3,5 (17:30-19:30)
12	<ul> <li>Activity Day</li> <li>Service: TKK, TCT, LSG, GHK (08:00–13:30)</li> <li>Walk: THO, OLD, SVM, CKS (08:00–12:00)</li> </ul>
13	<ul> <li>Activity Day</li> <li>Service: SVM, OLD, THO, CKS (08:00–13:30)</li> <li>Walk: TKK, GHK, SVM, CKS (08:00–12:00)</li> </ul>
14	<ul><li>Activity Day (09:00)</li><li>Tug-of-War House Competition (12:30)</li></ul>
15	<ul> <li>Final School Assembly (09:00-10:30)</li> <li>Year 5 Compulsory Meeting (10:30-11:30)</li> <li>Speech Day Rehearsals (10:30)</li> </ul>
16	<ul><li>Speech Day and issue of EOY report (08:00-11:00)</li><li>Graduation Night (17:30–19:30)</li></ul>
17	Year 6 Prom
19	TERM BREAK FOR ALL STUDENTS
21	Orchestra Trip
22	Orchestra Trip
23	Orchestra Trip







NEWSLETTER | November 2018



## ACS (International) is excited to announce the launch of a new trip for Years 1-4

The trip, known as "From Space to Sea", comprises two phases – Space and Sea. It will be held in Florida, USA, from 25 May 2019 to 6 June 2019.

The *Space* phase develops Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills in students as they attend Nasa's Space Camp. Students will spend three days at Kennedy Space Centre, close to Cape Canaveral, where they are encouraged to pursue STEM skills through exciting educational adventures that cannot be found anywhere else. They will experience, imagine and interact using brand-new immersive simulators in the new Astronaut Training Experience Center, tour Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, and solve everyday challenges faced by astronauts. This programme is inspiring, educational and fun – with enriching space-related activities that will help develop the student's scientific understanding.

The *Sea* phase focuses on ecology, allowing students to explore and interact with unique aquatic environment found in Florida. Students will tour the Everglades to understand the flora and fauna that make up that ecosystem, explore tropical waters to see the variety of life in coastal areas, and experience the Atlantic Ocean to better understand the way oceans work. They will see world-class exhibits of manatees, sea turtles, penguins and rays. They will also learn about wildlife rescue and marine animal care at the Conservation Outpost.

To view the detailed itinerary please follow the link below:

Itinerary: tinyurl.com/ACSFloridaTripInformation
Promotional Powerpoint: tinyurl.com/ACSFloridaTripPromo

If you are interested in your child attending this trip it is essential that you complete the *Registration of Interest Form* as places are limited:

Registration of Interest Form: tinyurl.com/FloridaTrip2019Registration

If you have any questions about the trip you can contact <a href="mailto:gavin.kinch@acsinternational.edu.sg">gavin.kinch@acsinternational.edu.sg</a>



