



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Welcome back to school following the Lunar New Year festivities. We trust that everyone enjoyed the extended time with families plus some time of refreshing. We finished for New Year last week with a special assembly celebration featuring high quality musical and dance performances from our students plus a traditional Lion Dance and the giving of oranges. See elsewhere for photos of the event. Our congratulations and thanks to all those involved - both performing and back stage.

This term at Chapel we are exploring Who God Is. Last week one of the points made was that sometimes we undergo hardships in order to help us grow as this helps us to develop character. To illustrate the point the story of the boy and the butterfly was told. A boy was watching a butterfly emerge from a chrysalis. He saw the butterfly struggle to break free so the boy helped him break down the chrysalis to set him free. The butterfly took a few tentative flaps of its wings then died. The boy mistakenly thought that he was helping the butterfly whereas the emerging butterfly needed to struggle to gain the strength that would enable it to break free, fly and live.

Sometimes life can seem a struggle and we make lots of mistakes, but without these struggles, making mistakes and trying hard, we are not able to reach our full potential. Thinking about a young baby as s/he learns to walk and seeing all the times s/he falls over before achieving success also illustrates the point.

Last week's Chapel message also reminded us that the Bible does not promise us an easy life but it does promise to protect us - 'My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one' John 17:15.

That said, life is also to be enjoyed, not endured, so as we start the Year of the Horse we wish everyone an energised and successful year ahead.

Best wishes
Rob Burrough

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**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

Owls cannot move their eyes
from side to side

STAFF NEWS

Staff Updates

Mdm Sandra Sng (Mathematics) is now on maternity leave and has been replaced by Ms Ilene Weinberger (ex-USA); Mr Tony Ryan (ex-NZ) also started in the Music Department this week; and Mrs Stef Hanrahan (ex-France/ Australia) starts in the Admissions Office on Monday. Last week we welcomed Ms Loh Chew Choo (Singapore) to the Chinese language department. Our best wishes to all four new staff for a successful and enjoyable time with us;

Ms Ana Lusanta completed her contract with us last week and has now moved to Jakarta to start a post in an international school there. We thank her for her services to the school over the past 18 months and we wish her well.

IGCSE 2013 Examination Results

ACS (International) students again performed creditably in the November 2013 IGCSE examination, the results of which were released recently.

ACS (International) students produced a 90% pass rate with 45% Distinction passes. 75% gained entry to our IB Diploma programme by gaining at least 2xA; 2 x B and 2 x C passes. Twelve students in the 145 strong cohort gained all Distinction passes (A * or A). The top performing students were Deandra Muliawan who gained 8 x A* including 99% in Mathematics and 97% in Mandarin; Ariane Wen Li Ruppli with 7xA* and 1 x A including 98% in both Mathematics and Chemistry; Chen Si Yue with 7 x A* and 2 x A including 99% in Economics, Mathematics and Chemistry and 98% in Additional Mathematics; Kawin Wattanamitoonsathian with 7 x A* and 1 x A including 97% in Chemistry and Mandarin; and Jesslyn Gisal with 5 x A* and 2 x A including 99% in Mathematics and 98% in Additional Mathematics and Chemistry.

Top performing 'value added' individuals were Kajal Kirpalani who had a PSLE score of 176 and in IGCSE gained four Distinction passes; Stanford Ong had a PSLE score of 177 and in IGCSE gained five Distinction passes; and Gabriella Tan had a PSLE score of 181 and in IGCSE gained seven Distinction passes.

Singaporean students at ACS (International) sitting IGCSE in 2013 had an average of just 202 in their PSLE. They and other students collectively improved gaining an overall pass rate of 90% with 46% Distinction passes. (In the recently released International Baccalaureate Diploma results released 4 weeks ago the top 10 Singaporean students scored an average of 40 yet their PSLE average score was only 226).

Top performing subjects in IGCSE were Mathematics with a 99.3% pass rate and 14 students who scored 97% and above; in Chemistry nine students had marks of 97% and above; and Art, Chinese, Drama, German, Japanese, Malay and Music all had 100% pass rates.

The 'Top of the World' awards will be published later in the year. Over the past four years the school has produced nine 'Top of the World' IGCSE students in English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Additional Mathematics, Geography and Chinese.

The reader is reminded that it is important to compare apples with apples when comparing results between schools. Our 90% pass rate with 45% Distinction passes was especially pleasing when considering that for nearly 50% of our students English is a second language. It is not easy to firstly learn English, then think in English then write in academic English.

As an inclusive Methodist school we strongly believe that every student who is accepted at our school should be given the opportunity to sit the IGCSE and IB examinations. We have high expectations and our students respond exceptionally well. For example, we accept Year 1 students with PSLE scores as low as 200 and O Level scores up to 20. The students and teachers are to be congratulated on the added value scores that the students subsequently gain in the international examinations.

NOTICES

Annual Founder's Day Celebration

The 128th Founder's Day of Anglo-Chinese School is on Saturday, 1 March 2014. ACS (International) is celebrating Founder's Day on Friday, 28 February from 8.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Attendance is compulsory. Students are to report to their House Tutors by 8.00 a.m. for registration.

All students are to wear their formal attire for this special occasion. School will be dismissed at approximately 10.30 a.m.

Staff CPD Day 3 March

Due to all staff undertaking professional development on Restorative Practices there will be no school for students on Monday 3 March. As well, teachers will not be available for appointments that day.

Parents Prayer Group

For 2014, the PPG will meet on the first Friday of every month (except during the school break & holidays), at the Conference Room, Administration Block from 8.15am - 9.30am.

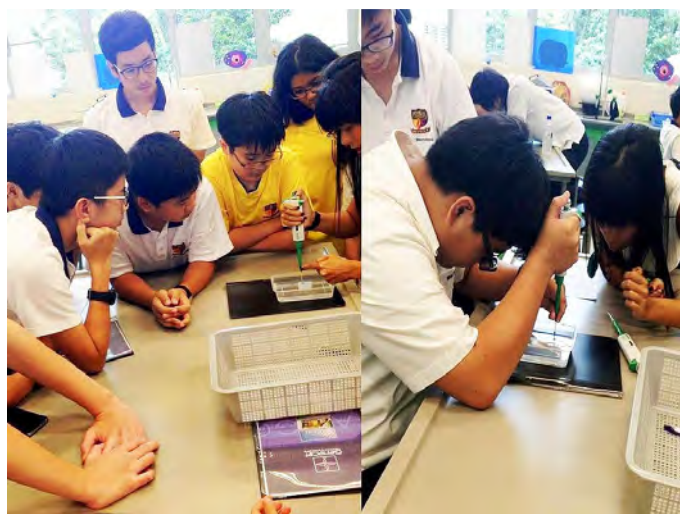
The first PPG meeting will be on 7th February 2014. Other dates are: March 7; April 4; May 2; July 4; August 1; October 3; November 7. We look forward to seeing you at these and other events throughout the year.

PSP Exco

Life Science Club 2014

The Life Science Club is open to any Year 1 to 5 student interested in molecular biology and biochemistry as a CCA. This programme is very suitable for pupils who have a keen interest in Science (e.g. triple science Year 3 students) or have plans to pursue medicine or science related field in their future career advancement or education path.

Module I will be held every Tuesday from 3- 4.30pm from 11 February. Location of the workshop will be at Bio Lab 2-1. Module II will commence in the third term.



This year the cost has been reduced from \$400 in 2013 to \$100 for all 13 sessions of Module I. To confirm your child's participation in this workshop, we request a registration deposit of \$50 cash or cheque, which is non-refunded, made payable to 'ACS (International)'. Full payment will be collected when the class commences. Please also include the following details on the back of the cheque:

1. Life Science Workshop 2014 (Module I)
2. Name of child
3. Class
4. Contact Number

All deposits are to be submitted by latest on 10 February at the Main Office reception. Deposits must be received by the due date in order to confirm your child's participation.

For any enquiries regarding the workshop, please contact Ms Linda Low at Linda.low@acsinternational.com.sg

The following are the highlights of the programme:

1. Introduction to the Life Science Laboratory
 - Usage of equipment
2. Science laboratory shown equipment – Applications
3. Central Dogma of Biology and DNA extraction
4. DNA profiling and evidence analysis/fingerprints
5. Isoelectric precipitation of proteins (Casein from Milk)
6. Protein Quantitation and qualitative tests
 - Biuret and Bradford Method,
7. Introduction of enzymes and their mode of action
8. Enzymes in the home
9. Culturing of bacteria, Bacterial plate count method & Antibiotic susceptibility test.
10. Action of antibiotics and gram staining
11. Research Investigation/ Field Trip
12. Research Investigation - Practical
13. Research Investigation – Presentation
14. Fun Investigation – Cheese making

SATS Preparation Course @ ACS (International)

This On-Campus Preparation Course for the SAT is suitable for students applying to the US Universities.

When: February 25 –April 30 2014 (Every Tuesday from 4.15 pm to 7.15 pm)

Where: ACS (International)

Who: Testtakers Singapore – a company specializing in SAT preparation

Course Fee: \$950

More information at www.testtakers-sg.com

Email: info@testtakers-sg.com

(Please see Ms Rita Kaur for registration forms).

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Regional Outlook Forum 2014

Year 6 Business and Economics students along with their Business teacher Ms Alka Hingle, attended the Regional Outlook Forum 2014 conducted by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS). ISEAS is dedicated to the study of social, political and economic trends in the region. The forum highlights trends and challenges that stakeholders in government and business should anticipate and incorporate in the short-and –medium term. Distinguished scholars and intellectuals with strong international and regional reputations provided insights to help participants think through the economic, political and security issues that will affect the region.

The whole-day event was divided into four sessions which looked at 'Southeast Asia in the Global Economy', 'Issues in US-China-Japan Dynamics', 'A Rising in Indonesia' and 'Southeast Asia: Political and Economic Landscape'.



The students felt that it was a stimulating experience as they gained insights into many issues facing these countries which was useful for general knowledge, applicable to their subject area and to help their parents in business.

Speak! Ventures Debate Championship 2014

Our debate team acquitted themselves well in the above named debate at the end of last month. The team of Dhruv Uppal (3GHK), Naveen Venkat (3THO), Charles Fuad (4CKS) and Lim Mun Yiang (3SVM) won the prepared round on the motion: "This House believes that states should set up permanent public exhibitions which highlight human rights abuses committed in the past." Dhruv was named Best Speaker in that round.

The team went on to win one of the two impromptu rounds on the motion: "This House believes that states should actively reinforce racial integration on all aspects of public life." For this round Charles was named Best Speaker. Congratulations, debaters!

Artist Talk organized by the Art Department ACS (International)

Artist Talks featuring local artists are continuing in 2014. Last month 2 contemporary artists, Hu Qiren and Hong Guo Yao, shared their insights of their practice and their workflow as an artist to art students.

Both guest artists shared unreservedly with students about their art-making process, the thoughts behind their work and their secret to creating quality, thought-provoking and meaningful works. The sharing of the artists' invaluable work experience has allowed students to gain greater exposure to contemporary art, thus inspiring them to work creatively and to produce personally relevant and quality works. Through the process, our students also gained a deeper understanding of the art making process and how others achieved success in this field.

At the end of the talk, the students showed their works to the artists and received insightful feedback. The Year 4 art students have particularly benefited from such exchange.

We also look forward to the paper-making workshop in early April by special invited guest, Japanese artist, Tomotatsu Gima. He is also an environmental activist who will be on an ASIA tour to conduct paper-making workshop to spread the awareness of environmental issues. A group exhibition with artist Tomotatsu Gima (with students' works) will be held on 16 May 2014, a Performing Arts CCA celebration evening.

For artists' biographies, please visit this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/fnatljihxaapnf8/Biography%20of%20Artists.doc>



Artist Hu Qiren shared his artistic experience and processes

Chinese Language Students Visit Chinatown



Last week 43 Year 3 Mandarin Chinese students visited the Chinese New Year Market at Chinatown. Students were introduced to a wide range of food and decorations that are only available during the Chinese New Year period.

Students were asked to find out what each Chinese New Year food symbolises and how the local people celebrate the New Year. Students also got to practise their Chinese

language conversation when interviewing the hawkers and soaked in the atmosphere of the red horses.



Art Stage Singapore and LaSalle Visit

On Saturday 18 January 68 ACS (International) Art students visited Art Stage Singapore, a huge international Art Fair at Marina Bay Sands which showcased both emerging and established artists from the region and around the world. The trip gave students a wonderful opportunity to see first-hand art works from some of the most highly regarded contemporary artists practicing today.

Those students interested in studying an arts related subject at university, then visited LaSalle College of the Arts, where students were shown around their Open House by current LaSalle, and former ACS student Jefry Tanjaya. Visiting LaSalle allowed students to see the very broad opportunities available to artistic and creatively minded people wishing to move into a career in the arts.

International Fencing

Aloysius Low achieved a Top 8 position in the South East Asia Fencing Cadet Championship 2014 held last month in Kuala Lumpur, losing to his senior and the eventual gold medalist.

Tennis

Last month four students from the Tennis competitive team were selected to attend the 'Meet and Greet Session with Chris Evert & Eugenie Bouchard'. Chris Evert is the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Legend Ambassador for the WTA Championships in Singapore and Eugenie Bouchard is a Canadian professional tennis player. She was the first Canadian to win a Grand Slam singles title with her 2012 Wimbledon girls' title. Following the end of the 2013 WTA Tour, she was named WTA Newcomer of the Year.



The Meet and Greet session was extremely insightful as they both shared their experiences as Tennis professionals.

This session proved to be very motivational for the boys as they gained a better awareness of how the players as professionals stay motivated in their games and how they try to balance their professional and school life. Overall, it was a very good exposure and session that proved to be an inspiration to our players.

ACSIS Football

The school has entered two teams in this top tier completion - 14 & Under, and Under 17. Both teams have played four games but have yet to record a win. The Best Is Yet To Be!

Touch Rugby CCA Successes

At a time when many students were off on their holidays, when many students were celebrating the end of their exams... the ACS (International) Touch Rugby teams were preparing to start their season... It started with the 2014 Asian All Schools Championships held on Saturday 23 November. The AAS Championships is one of the biggest Touch Rugby Tournaments in South East Asia with teams entering from Manila, Bangkok, Jakarta as well as many International Schools from Singapore. ACS (International) was able to enter 2 teams into the tournament for the first time; our experienced Senior Girls U18 team and our new U14 Junior Girls team.

The U14 Girls Team got better and better with every performance and finished in a very credible 5th position with special mention to try scorers Kimberley Jeremiah and Myra Tan. After a difficult start the Senior Girls progressed through to the Girls 18's B Final by finishing 3rd in their group and winning both their quarter-final and semi-final games. The girls were preparing for their final against UWC East when the lightning alarm sounded and all play was suspended for the day. The final was postponed until the following weekend and played during the UWC Dragons tournament that was held at UWC East. The final was played with a much changed U18 team due to players leaving the country for their Christmas holidays. However, the "magnificent 7" put in a battling performance against UWC East but lost out narrowly 3-2. The girls were then awarded their AAS Runners Up trophy and medals for finishing in 3rd place for the UWC Dragons Tournament.

As well as playing these tournaments over the Christmas Holidays, the U19 Girls ACSIS season also started at the end of November. After winning Division 2 last year the girls were entered into Division 1 this year and faced all the biggest and best Touch Rugby playing schools including LFS A, Singapore American School A, Tanglin Trust School A, UWC Dover A/B/C and UWC East A. With wins over UWC East, UWC Dover B and a draw with UWC Dover C the ACS (International) Senior Girls U19 finished in a very credible 5th position out of 8 teams.

A huge congratulations to the Senior Girls Touch Rugby on their outstanding efforts this season!

Senior Girls Touch Rugby Team members: Aimee Griffiths (Capt.), Isabella Tan, Marie Sieghold, Sha Lin Koh, Sha May Koh, Melanie Fassler, Mahnoor Shehryar Ali, Clara Idenburg, Margarette Chang, Valerie Chua, Shelby Goh, Clarissa Lee, Wilshia Maruli, Megan Loke, Rachel Low, Kimberley Jeremiah, Erin Ching, Dana Sivarajan, Nicole Ng, Jie Ying Neo.

Girls U14 Touch Rugby Team; Kimberley Jeremiah (Capt.), Erin Ching, Dana Sivarajan, Nicole Tan, Zinwen Chan, Ng Kai Lyn, Surabhi Surya, Myra Tan, Angelia Gan, Nary Chea.



Inter-House Football and Netball Competitions 2014

Congratulations to TKK and Oldham Houses for winning overall in the 2014 Netball Inter House Competition.

TCT came top in the Football Competition, well done!



LSG - Winners of the Senior Netball Competition



GHK - Winners of the Senior Football Competition



TCT - Winners of the Junior Football Competition



TKK - Winners of the Junior Netball Competition

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY	EVENT
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 Information Evening 7:00 pm Talk on applying to study Medicine 6:30 pm (Manchester University)
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSP Back to School Party and Total Defence Day US Colleges Visit 11:00 – 12:00
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 Information Evening
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing for parents and guardians of years 2, 3, 4 and 6 on new Grading and Reporting system
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Founder's Day and Year 1 Malacca Field Trip Weekend

MARCH	EVENT
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Closed – Staff CPD on Restorative Practices
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPD – Pastoral Staff
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPD – Pastoral Staff
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-House Music Competition
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of Term Grade Report for Term 1 published
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House Leaders Thank You Tea
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commendation Assembly
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring Dance/ Cambodia CAS Trip Departure End of Term 1

University Visit Jan/March 2014

Medicine in the UK and the application process

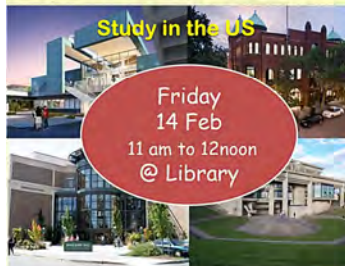
Speakers: Prof. David Thompson and Mrs. Linda Harding of the University Of Manchester School Of Medicine

**Wednesday, February 12 @ 6.30pm
in the Oldham Chapel**



Study in the US

**Friday
14 Feb
11 am to 12noon
@ Library**



Arkansas Tech University
Bridgewater College
Creighton University
Edmonds Community College
Foothill & De Anza Colleges
Minot State University
North Seattle Community College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Shoreline Community College
State University of New York at Brockport
University of Bridgeport
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
Wisconsin Lutheran College

Loyola Marymount University

Popular courses: Liberal Arts,
Communication and Fine Arts,
Business Administration

**Thursday, February 27
11am to 12noon
in the Canteen**



Indiana University

Popular Programs: Music,
Arts, Business, Management,
Marketing

**Thursday, February 27
11am to 12noon
in the Canteen**



University of Warwick

Popular Programs: Business, Law,
Engineering, Computer Science,
Mathematics

**Thursday, March 6
11am to 12noon
in the School Canteen**



All Year 1 to Year 6 Students are invited!

If you are interested in attending any of these presentations,
please email or sign up with Ms Rita Kaur.

Thank you