



## ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

### Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Congratulations to all the students, the houses, the staff, the PSP and the staff committee on a very successful International Day Fiesta on Wednesday. Centred around our theme 'Freedom with Responsibility' we saw much talent, creativity, high quality performances, hard work, high energy and pride exhibited by our students. The procession of flags, the wearing of national costumes, the Fashion Show, the exhibits, the painting and art work, the sports and the afternoon entertainment were all uplifting spectacles and were appreciated by all. Congratulations to those wearing their national costumes – they looked stunning!

Many thanks to our Guest of Honour, Dr Boaz Boon, Senior Vice President at CapitaLand. His speech around Freedom with Responsibility was very well structured and thoughtful, containing a number of quotes and examples from Nelson Mandela, Eleanor Roosevelt, John Wesley and the Bible. He finished by exhorting us all to live out our lives with freedom and responsibility; to love God; and to leave behind a respectable legacy.

International Day is an important celebration for our school as we each acknowledge our own national identity and pride within a context of inclusion, collaboration and affirmation in the wider ACS family. Nations working together is a demonstration of freedom with responsibility. The opposite, of course, is freedom without responsibility - when nations demonstrate separatism, exclusion and domination over others. In typical ACS fashion, our International Day was a very strong demonstration of freedom with responsibility - a shared celebration of diversity and culture found amongst our students who come from over 30 different countries.

A special moment in our International Day assembly was the minute's silence to remember the Korean ferry victims. This disaster is the latest in a number of disasters around our region which has hit our school community hard in recent years. - we all remember the flooding, the tsunamis and the earthquakes in areas including the Philippines, Indonesia, China, Japan and New Zealand. Our prayers and thoughts are with our Korean students and families, the victims and indeed the whole nation of South Korea at this time of terrible tragedy.

Next week we hold our annual Student Leader Investiture ceremony. We acknowledge the contribution of the outgoing student leaders and we welcome and set aside the new leaders for the next 12 months. At this formal occasion all students are expected to wear their formal attire. Parents are most welcome to join us next Wednesday at 7.50am.

Best Wishes  
**Rob Burrough**



May 2014

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**"Do all the good you can.  
By all the means you can.  
In all the ways you can.  
In all the places you can.  
At all the times you can.  
To all the people you can.  
As long as ever you can."**

*John Wesley*



## NOTICES

**Preliminary Examinations 2014**

Years 4 and 6 will sit their Preliminary Examinations the first two weeks of Term 3 30 June – 11 July inclusive.

The draft Preliminary Timetable is in the process of being finalised and will be emailed to parents and students next week.

Further information about revision sessions will be sent out in due course.

**Workshop for Year 6: Writing Effective Personal Statements**

Please note the following changes to the schedule for this workshop with Ms. Rita Kaur.

Students yet to attend this workshop will attend according to the House schedule below on the following dates at 3:00 pm in Wesley Hall (top floor of the Sports Block).

Friday, 2 May: SVM, LSG, CKS

Friday, 16 May: GHK, TTK, TCT

Please note that the sessions are compulsory and take place in period 5 which is reserved for activities such as this as well as Support sessions.

Should you have any questions regarding this workshop please contact Ms. Rita Kaur - Careers and Higher Education Counsellor ([rita.kaur@acsinternational.com.sg](mailto:rita.kaur@acsinternational.com.sg))

**Second Annual ACS (International) Sports Tournament**

Tomorrow, Saturday 3 May over 150 of our students are either playing or helping in the above tournament in boys' football, and girls' netball and touch rugby. With the sports field still under development as an all-weather astro turf facility the venues are:

U14 & U16 netball @ ACS (International)

U18 girls touch rugby @ St Joseph's Institution International

U15 & U19 boys football @ the Australian International School

All three competitions will run from approximately 8.30am-1pm. All support welcome.

**CCA Concert and Exhibition**

The Performing and Expressive Arts CCAs will be holding a concert on Friday 16 May to celebrate the talents of our students. Performances from the Dance, Contemporary Band, Gu Zheng, Chapel Band, Chinese and English Drama, Percussion Ensemble, Classical Guitar and String Orchestra CCAs will be staged. Arts, crafts and photographs from the Arts Club, Ceramics Club and The Fine Arts Photography CCA will also be on exhibition. The concert starts at 7:00pm and will finish at approximately 9:30pm. Admission is free and guests are expected to be seated at the Oldham Chapel by 6:50 PM. Come early and see the exhibits.

**Examination Preparation Workshops**

All Year 3 – 6 students are participating in a one hour study skills seminar either today Friday or Monday. In addition, students and parents are able to enrol in a four hour session **tomorrow** run by a visiting presenter, Mr Stuart Wright. The purpose of this seminar is to build on and enhance the one hour study skills seminars in the build-up for IGCSE and IB examinations. The seminar is ideally suited for Year 3-6 students who want to learn study techniques that will assist them to become effective independent learners. Parent and caregivers may also attend to learn the skills to provide study support for the students. The seminar will cover:

- Different ways the brain processes knowledge and skills
- How to keep the brain focused during learning, including writing overviews
- Various ways to study different subjects
- How to easily connect previously unknown pieces of information
- How to become familiar with the mapping of notes using multi-sensory techniques
- Using techniques to "SCAR" information onto the brain

Cost: \$50 per person, please pay on arrival (people will need to register with Mr Aitken in person or by email before Saturday [grant.aitken@acsinternational.com.sg](mailto:grant.aitken@acsinternational.com.sg)).

**2015 Term Dates**

The 2015 Singapore public holidays have now been announced. To help families plan for next year we have attached next year's ACS (International) term dates to this email.

**IB, IGCSE and O Level May Examinations**

A summary of the May examinations timetable is produced below with full details including venues and start times on the school website. Students must report to the venue at least 15 minutes before the start time of the examination and are required to bring a photo identification card for verification. The IB examinations are held in the Seminar Room, located on Level 2 of the Library Block, and accessed from the staircase nearest to the tennis courts.

Exam Date	Session	Exam	Syllabus	Paper/Code
07-May-14 (Wed)	AM	IGCSE	Foreign Language Malay Paper 2	0546 / 02
09-May-14 (Fri)	AM	IB	Vietnamese A Literature SL	Paper 1
09-May-14 (Fri)	PM	O Level	French	3015 / 22
12-May-14 (Mon)	PM	IB	Vietnamese A Literature SL	Paper 2
13-May-14 (Tue)	PM	IGCSE	Hindi as a Second Language	0549 / 13
13-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IB	Japanese B HL	Paper 1
13-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IB	Japanese B HL	Paper 2
13-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IB	Hindi B SL	Paper 1
13-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IB	Hindi B SL	Paper 2
13-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IB	Malay ab initio SL	Paper 1
13-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IB	Malay ab initio SL	Paper 2
13-May-14 (Tue)	PM	O Level	French	3015 / 12
15-May-14 (Thu)	AM	IGCSE	Drama Paper 1	0411 / 13
15-May-14 (Thu)	AM	IGCSE	Foreign Language Malay Paper 4	0546 / 04
15-May-14 (Thu)	PM	IGCSE	Foreign Language Mandarin Chinese Paper 2	0547 / 22
15-May-14 (Thu)	PM	IGCSE	Hindi as a Second Language	0549 / 23
20-May-14 (Tue)	AM	IGCSE	First Language Chinese Paper 1	0509 / 13
21-May-14 (Wed)	AM	IGCSE	First Language Chinese Paper 2	0509 / 23
23-May-14 (Fri)	PM	IGCSE	Foreign Language Mandarin Chinese Paper 1	0547 / 12
23-May-14 (Fri)	PM	IGCSE	Foreign Language Mandarin Chinese Paper 4	0547 / 42
02-Jun-14 (Mon)	AM	O-Level	Chinese Paper 1	1162 / 1
02-Jun-14 (Mon)	AM	O-Level	Malay Paper 1	1132 / 1
02-Jun-14 (Mon)	AM	O-Level	Chinese Paper 2	1162 / 2
02-Jun-14 (Mon)	AM	O-Level	Malay Paper 2	1132 / 2



## STUDENT SUCCESSES

### 2014 Student Leadership Training Camp

Before selection and investiture, prospective student leaders underwent interviews, probationary training and a leadership training camp.

In April, the new cohort of student leader nominees for Prefects, Student Council, Ambassadors and Houses underwent a two day leadership training adventure-based experiential learning camp with Camp Challenge at Sembawang.



The student leaders came away with better understanding of the MICEE leadership model of Kouzes & Posner: Model the Way, Inspire a Shared Vision, Challenge the Process, Enable Others to Act and Encourage the Heart as well as developing stronger bonds among the various groups. The high impact activities provided the platform for inculcating responsibility and respect for one another, the right attitude to stress, and creative thinking to challenges.

The students also went through DISC profiling to assess their predominant personality type or style of behaviour - Dominance, Influence, Steadiness or Conscientiousness.

They then discussed their behavioural differences to gain understanding of one another which would result in better teamwork and communication between different personality types.

### APEC Seminar for Economics Students



On 16 April, 29 students from our Year 5 IB Economics cohort attended a lecture titled "Apec Economic Trends and Priorities: Innovate for a Better Future with Sustainable Growth" which proved to be a highly informative lecture hosted by APEC at the Institute of South East Asian Studies.

It was an excellent experience for our students, who were able to talk to professional economists, gain exposure and insight into how economics really works, and also gain a deeper understanding of the economic climate around them. They all made the link between the theory learned at school with the policies and strategic planning discussed at the forum.

During the lecture itself, the main Speaker for the Forum "Quynh Le" praised our school and students for being interested and involved in learning more about how SE Asia could help itself get out of the recent economic recession.



### Humanities Visit by Brunei MOE Delegates



This last week the Humanities Faculty hosted a group of Education Officers from the Curriculum Development Department of the Brunei Ministry of Education. The delegates visited the school as part of their tour of educational institutions in Singapore, including the National Institute of Education, to learn more about Singapore's policy and pedagogy in the field of Humanities education. The delegates were given an introduction to the school by senior staff, a school tour, and they observed a Year 3 Geography lesson conducted using the inquiry approach.



### Bare Your Sole Walkathon

Bare Your Sole (BYS) is an annual barefoot walkathon which seeks to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity, Singapore. The event provides the opportunity for people from all walks of life in Singapore to support a charitable cause by walking barefoot in a symbolic gesture to raise awareness of the plight of a large number of people living in poverty without any footwear. Funds raised will go to improving their living conditions as well as the local vulnerable and elderly in Singapore.

This year, ACS (International) would like to continue our support to Habitat for Humanity by simultaneously and symbolically walking one lap together during our Sports Day event on 9 April.

Families have the opportunity to donate to this cause by making an on-line donation at <http://www.give2habitat.org/member/ACSInternational/donate>. For more information please see the attached letter.

### Steps In The Park

ACS International's Ambassadors were a key supporter of EmancipAsia in their 'Steps in the Park' fundraiser to combat human trafficking. 'Steps In The Park' was held at Gardens by the Bay with the noble cause of allowing people to take their first step towards empathizing with such unfortunate circumstances as modern-day slavery. The event had Madam Halimah Yacob, Speaker of Parliament as the Guest of Honour.

Unfortunately, the event did not go as planned – Mother Nature intervened with heavy rain. Although the 1200 participants completed the run/walk in the inclement conditions, the other performances and the lucky draw had to be cancelled. At this point, much seemed lost. But this was not the case. Even though things didn't go as planned, it was a blessing in disguise – the people who took part displayed much resolve and dedication which made the cause and spirit of the whole event even more important and inspiring.

Personally, I remember how determined we were to contribute as much as we could, standing in the rain and directing the runners, then encouraging us as we encouraged them - and some even asked for pictures with us! All in all, 'Steps in The Park' was a remarkable and memorable experience for the Ambassadors.

*Jesie K. Randhawa, 5-Thoburn*



### Cycling

IZ Ho and Jerome Teo have both been selected for the Singapore National Cycling Squad in the Junior Men's Road section. They have both also just returned from competing in the prestigious Thailand Tour of Friendship Cycle Race.

### U19 Netball ACSIS League

A's beat AIS B's 22-9

B's beat SJII D's 37-2

C's beat CIS B's 15-12

C's lost to AIS C's 9-31

### Boys Football

Our senior boys have competed in two tournaments this term. The Singapore Schools' Sports Council tournament is a very tough competition and our 4th place finish is the highest to date. Wins were recorded against Dunman High School and River Valley High School and losses against ACJC, SAJC and Hwa Chong.

In the Australian International School Cup to date the boys have drawn 2 – 2 against the German European School and lost 1 – 3 to the Singapore American School. Two more matches against the Lycée Français de Singapour and the Australian International School will be followed by the semi-finals and finals.



Our U19 Girls Netball Teams



## Physical Education and Sport



Year 3 students reactions to completing an endurance challenge during a PE lessons. Students ran an average of 2.8 km during the lesson and gained knowledge of heart rate and recovery times.



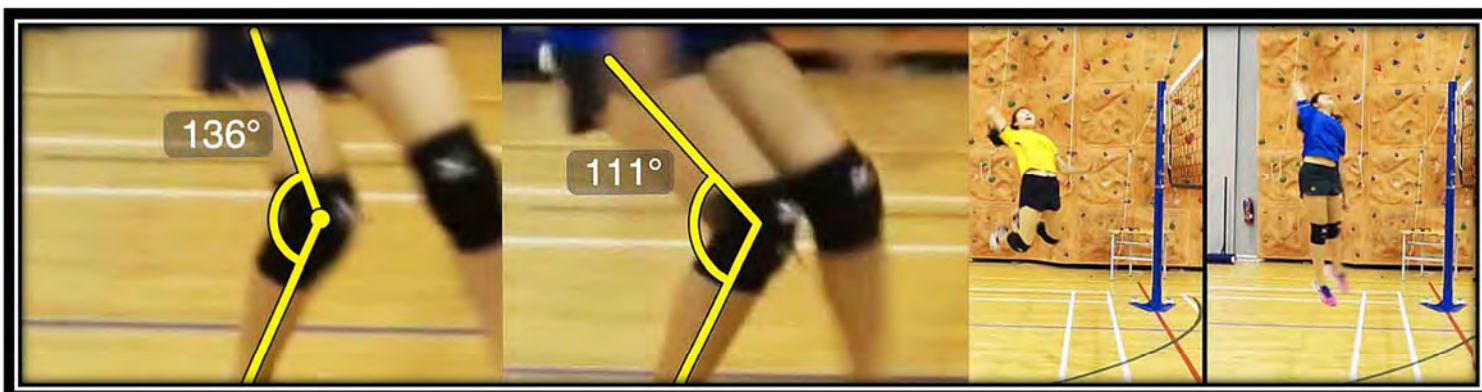
CKS took the overall top prize for the 2014 Inter-House Badminton Tournament. CKS sported some outstanding players, which helped them retain the trophy from last year. Congratulations!



Year 5 Sports Science students using the 'Split Pic' Application to illustrate joint articulation during a practical lesson.



Year 2 students engaging in a trust and balance exercise during the 'Indoor Games' Unit of Work. During this unit, students learned how to identify their own strengths and weakness and then apply specific skills to overcome challenges.



Year 6 Sports Science students gathered data for their Internal Assessments. Here a student used the 'Coaches Eye' video analysis application to inquire if there was a correlation between 'knee bend prior to take off' and 'Vertical spike heights' of the school volleyball team.



### ACS Oldham Hall Update

Last year's ACS (International) Year 6 student and Oldham Hall resident, Danny Christian received the Silver OBA (Old Boys Association) Medal Award at the recent Founder's Day celebration. He scored 43 points out of 45 for his IB Diploma and was Deputy Head Boy. He shares his boarding experience at Oldham Hall.

#### What was it like staying in Oldham Hall (OH)?

*Life at Oldham Hall was fun and fulfilling. The opportunity to live with people of different nationalities - peers, seniors, juniors, and Assistant House Masters/Mistresses (AHMs), provided a most invaluable experience. Hanging out with friends in the Common Room, gathering in Dining Hall to celebrate birthdays, sitting in the Courtyard at night and playing some music, or just simply chatting over dinner were the little things that made my 4 years in OH worthwhile. I still felt the homely feeling when I went back for Founder's Day this year.*

#### Were you involved in any activities in Oldham Hall? Did you learn or develop any skills?

*I joined the Multimedia Club (MMC) in 2011, and MMC Exco as Head of Photography in 2012. It was in MMC that I developed my passion in photography and videography. Besides my role in MMC, I was also Captain for Yellow House in 2012. Being house captain was a challenge of my leadership skills, as I needed to rally and bond people within the house, Tough as it seemed, it was also fun.*

#### How do you think staying at Oldham Hall has helped you in your studies?

*I want to thank Oldham Hall for helping me receive the OBA award. I enjoyed the structured study times, the support of the staff and the opportunity to unwind with others after studying, especially during exams.*



Danny receiving his previous award from Chairman Hugh Yii.



Danny (in the centre holding the camera) at Thanksgiving Dinner 2013





## UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY	EVENT
7	• Student Leaders Investiture 7.50am
9	• Inter-House Athletics Sports Day 8.30am • Ambassadors Camp
13	• Vesak Day – Public Holiday
16	• End of Term 2 Grade Reports Published • Combined Performing Arts CCA Main Performance Show Case Evening (7.00pm To 9.30pm)
21	• Presentation Assembly
23	• School Closes 3.00pm
JUNE	EVENT
30	• Term 3 begins

## June School Trips

We wish the students and staff well on the following school trips which take place over the June holidays.

- Business and University Trip (UK)
- East Africa Trip
- Southern Africa Trip
- New Zealand Photographic Trip
- History and Religious Studies European Trip
- MUN Korea

ACS (International)  
Performing and Expressive Arts CCA  
*presents*  
*Liberati*  
*A night of music, drama and dance.*

**16 May 2014**  
**6:30 - 9:30 pm**  
Oldham Chapel ACS (International)



