



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Congratulations to staff, students, parents, guardians, homestay providers and boarding hostels on staying the course and committing to HBL to the end of Term 2.

Despite the challenges of working remotely from home, the upskilled use of technology has ensured that effective learning has occurred during this time and students are well prepared and not significantly disadvantaged when face-to-face schooling restarts in Term 3. Feedback from teachers and students indicates that it has not been an easy adjustment to a prolonged period of HBL but “necessity is the mother of invention” and both parties now have new skills and a greater appreciation of the value and benefits of working together in a physical community. We are looking forward to reconnecting with everyone on 29 June, and despite the time spent on e-learning, we are confident that our students will perform well in both external and school-based examinations at the end of the year.

Based on the latest news from the Singapore government and Ministry of Education, it is increasingly likely that there will still be significant restrictions in place when we restart school in Term 3. We will closely monitor the MOE guidelines and note any additional changes as they arise, but at this stage, it appears that similar restrictions to those in place at the beginning of Term 2 will operate. These include no mass gatherings such as assemblies and Chapel; no CCAs apart from those which can operate virtually; daily temperature checks; social distancing; staggered break and finish times; plus the need for all students and staff to wear masks or face shields. It remains to be seen whether more extreme social distancing measures such as blended learning involving alternating school learning days with home based days for different year levels will take place. We will advise the school community of all procedures in place for Term 3 during the final week of the June holidays.

With all the uncertainty around schooling, disruption to social gatherings, and the very significant economic concerns including business viability and employee job security, we all need to continue to support each other through acts of kindness and keeping in contact. We can also pray the peace of Christ to each other. The disciples were afraid and faced an uncertain future following Jesus’ crucifixion but were hugely reassured and empowered when Jesus appeared to the disciples and said “Peace be with you” (Matthew 20:19).

To all school families suffering financial loss, we remind them to contact our Finance and Admin Manager, Ms Jase Cheok jase.cheok@acsinternational.edu.sg to see what extra financial assistance may be given. Our thanks to those families who have donated their 5% rebate back to school to be placed in our Support Fund.

Our best wishes to all for a safe, healthy and more restful break over the coming five weeks.

Rob Burrough
Principal

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For comments and feedback, please email
acsinternational.communications@acsinternational.edu.sg



Hawaii was originally called the Sandwich Islands

CHISTIAN MINISTRY NEWS

PPG continues to uphold our school and the nation during this time of COVID 19 pandemic and Home Based Learning by meeting and praying regularly via ZOOM. On Thursday, 14 May, we had a good time of fellowship, sharing and prayer with our Principal, Mr Rob Burrough, via Zoom.



Chapel services continue online, with Rev. Joel Yong speaking on "Burdens Shared, Loads Carried" on 29 April and Rev. Dr Lorna Khoo speaking on "Managing Our Emotions – Compassion" on 15 May.

STAFF NEWS

This week, we bid farewell to three staff. Ms Gemma Millar (Geography) is moving on with her husband to jobs in Abu Dhabi, Mr Phillip Evans (Economics and Theory of Knowledge) is returning to the UK, and Ms Ng Shu Ching (Chemistry) is pursuing other interests after initially tendering her resignation which was effective at the end of 2019.

We thank the three of them for their service to the school, for their contribution to the wider life of the school and their collaboration with colleagues. We also thank Ms Koh Shiling for again very ably relieving in the Science Faculty for Semester I for Ms Cheryl Seah, who returns from maternity leave at the start of Term 3.

Mr Praeman will replace Ms Gemma Millar from 1 August, and Mr Ranapratap Shaji from NPS International will take over Ms Ng Shu Ching from 29 June.

NOTICES

Term 2 Reports

All students will receive the usual full Term 2 report with grades and comments. Parents and students will be informed via email when the results are published on Monday, 1 June.

Term 3 Key Dates

Friday, 26 June, Staff Only Day: All staff to meet at 9:00am, Sports Hall.

Friday 26 June, New Admissions: All new students to report to the Chapel for Welcome and Orientation III at 9:00am.

Monday 29 June: School begins at 8:00am for all students. Please report to Tutor Group.

Monday 13 July: Prelim examinations for Years 4 and 6 begin. Last paper on Friday, 24 July.

Prelim Examination Dates 2020

The Prelim Examination Schedules are now available for viewing online on the Parent/Student Portals. You may also view the schedules from the links below:

- [Year 4 Prelim Examination Schedule](#)
- [Year 6 Prelim Examination Schedule](#)

Tuition Fees Rebate

The Board of Management has agreed to a 5% reduction of the Semester I tuition fee (January to June) in recognition of the financial impact of COVID-19 on individual families. This 5% rebate will be applied to the Semester II fees.

Virtual Open House and 2021 Admissions Days

Due to the cancellation of the traditional Open House in Term 2, a virtual Open House will be available from 25 May via this [link](#). For more information on admissions matters, please contact admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg

Additionally, we will hold two Saturday 2021 Admissions Days on 11 and 18 July (similar to our PSLE and 'O' Levels Information Sessions) to be hosted by SLT and Admissions Department with school tours led by our Student Leaders.



Direct School Admissions

Prospective students can apply for admission to 2021 classes through our internal admissions tests or based on formal examination results such as PSLE or 'O' Levels taken in 2020.

Direct School Admissions (DSA) applicants for Years 1, 2, 3, Pre IB, FIB and Year 5 can contact the Admissions Department to arrange to sit for English Language and Mathematics entrance tests. All applicants will also undertake an oral interview with a senior staff member. Year 1 applicants who do not pass the DSA process can re-apply for admission using their 2020 PSLE results.

Office Holiday Hours

Please note that during the holiday period from 25 May to 26 June, the General Office will be open from Tuesday, 2 June, 9am to 4pm – subject to circuit breaker conditions at the time. Normal hours of 7:30am to 5:30pm resumes on 26 June.

Safe Entry to School During the Holidays

In line with the government's directive to implement the Safe Entry QR Code, all staff, students and visitors arriving at school over the holidays from 2 June will need to check in using this code.



In addition, for the school's records, all staff and student arrivals will also need to sign in using the school's bar code found on staff/student ID. For this reason, only the Main Gate will be open for access over the holidays.

In general, **students will not be allowed back to school over the holidays** unless they have approval to attend school for June holiday revision classes. This is to reduce the risk of infection as COVID-19 numbers reduce and stabilise.

Online Orders for School Uniform

Bibi & Baba are now accepting online orders for school uniform. To place your order, visit <https://www.schooluniforms.sg/acs-international>.

Visitors During the Holidays

Visitors to the school during the period 25 May to 19 June, including admission enquiries, must make a prior appointment before being allowed entry into the school. Please phone (65) 6472 1477 for an appointment time. We apologise for the inconvenience.

PTM Postponement

The school has postponed the scheduled PTM on 22 May to Term 3. Date to be announced.

Revised School Calendar

A few dates for Terms 3 and 4 have been revised. Click [here](#) for the revised calendar available on the school website.

Circuit Breaker Connector Community Newsletter

For those of you who have missed this special newsletter edition since its inaugural issue on 17 April, check out [here](#) for all the six issues.



Full School Uniform During Examinations and School Revision

Full school uniform must be worn during examinations and at any other time when students come to school for revision.

May/June Holiday Tuition

The following extra classes will operate during the May/June holidays for IBDP and IGCSE classes.

Languages Faculty

'O' Levels Mother Tongue

Date	Time	Content
Thu, 4 June	0900h to 1100h	Support lesson
Fri, 5 June	0900h to 1100h	Support lesson
Mon, 8 June	1400h to 1815h	Prelim exam (same timing as actual exam)
Thu, 11 June	0900h to 1100h	To go through papers
Fri, 12 June	0900h to 1100h	To go through papers
Tue, 16 June	0900h to 1100h	Revision session/ Individual consultation time
Thu, 18 June	1400h to 1815h (to report at 1330h)	'O' Levels Mother Tongue written examination

Other Languages

Subject	Teacher	Date	Time	Content
Year 6 Mandarin ab initio	Koh Leng Leng	Tue, 23 June Thu, 25 June	1000h to 1300h	Revision
Year 6 Spanish ab initio	Cristina Mora	Tue, 23 June Thu, 25 June	1000h to 1200h	Revision
Year 6 Japanese Lit	Akane Yoshida	Thu, 25 June	1300h to 1500h	IOC practice WA feedback
Year 6 Korean Lit	Oh Eun Jeong	Mon, 22 June Thu, 25 June	1000h to 1200h	Revision

Note: The venue for each of the above sessions is the respective teacher's room.

The Arts Faculty

Class/Teacher	Content	Date	Time	Venue
Year 4 IGCSE Art and Design Chang HT	EA: Coursework – Creating artworks/ Consolidation of supporting studies	4 and 5 June 10 and 11 June 23 and 24 June	1000h to 1500h	LB504
Year 6 IB Music Carol Ling	IA: Solo performing Recording	3 and 4 June 9 and 11 June	1.5h each (From 0900h to 1500h)	MS203
Year 6 IB Visual Arts Peter Talbot	IA: Exhibition – Creating Artworks	2 to 5 June	0830h to 1500h	LB Level 5
Year 6 IB Theatre Andrea Gordon	EA: Research Presentation Recording	2 June	1000h to 1500h	Black Box



English Faculty

Teacher	Date/Class/Time
Peter Thompson	Tue, 2 June: 6 ELLHL 2, 1100h to 1200h Wed, 3 June: 6 ELLHL 2, 1100h to 1200h Thu, 4 June: 6 ELLHL 2, 1100h to 1200h
Emma Murray	Tue, 26 May: 4ELa2 Group 1 – 0900h to 1130h and Group 2 –1230h to 1500h Thu, 28 May: 4ELi2 Group 1 – 0900h to 1130h and Group 2 –1230h to 1500h Mon, 1 June: 6ELLSL3 Group 1 – 0900h to 1130h and Group 2 –1230h to 1500h
Michelle Liew	Tue, 2 June: 6ELLHL3, 1000h to 1100h Wed, 3 June: 4ELi1, 1000h to 1100h Fri, 5 June: 6ELLHL3, 1000h to 1100h
Carrie Cheah	Tue, 2 June: 6LLSL1, 1000h to 1130h Wed, 3 June: 4ELa3, 1000h to 1130h Thu, 4 June: 6LLSL1, 1000h to 1130h Fri, 5 June: 4ELa4, 1000h to 1130h
Danielle Parry	Tue, 2 June: 4ELA1, 1100h to 1200h; 4ELA5, 1200h to 1300h Thu, 4 June: 4ELA1, 1100h to 1200h; 4ELA5, 1200h to 1300h Fri, 5 June: 4ELA1, 1100h to 1200h; 4ELA5, 1200h to 1300h

Note: The respective teacher will inform their students on the mode of lesson and its venue.

Humanities Faculty Year 6

Teacher	Department	Content	Date	Time	Mode/Venue
Sreemati Sen	Geography	Optional HL Class	8 and 9 June	1100h to 1200h	Online
Claire Tan	History	Paper 1 revision Paper 2 revision Paper 3 revision	17 June 18 June 19 June	1000h to 1200h	SB303
Alka Hingle	Business Studies	Optional revision on exam questions	25, 27 and 29 May	1100h to 1300h	Online
Alastair Tan	Economics	Revision	4 and 5 June	1100h to 1200h	Online
		Paper 1 and Paper 2 Writing Skills	22 June	0900h to 1100h, 1300h to 1500h	NB1-6

Note: If school is not open, the mode of lesson will be online.

Humanities Faculty Year 4

Teacher	Department	Content	Date	Time	Mode/Venue
Claire Tan	History	Paper 4 revision	15 June	1000h to 1200h	SB303
		Paper 2 revision	16 June		
Pamela Ng	Business	Cash Flow	22 June	0900h to 1100h	NB1-4
		Paper 1 and Paper 2 Writing Skills	23 June		
Pamela Ng	Business	Consultations (Open to all students of any class)	24 and 25 June	0900h to 1100h	NB1-4
Jamuna Madhav	Business	Optional revision class	22 and 23 June	1000h to 1230h	NB1-3
Alastair Tan	Economics	Revision	4 and 5 June	0900h to 1000h	Online
		Paper 2 Practice Writing Skills	23 June	0900h to 1100h	NB1-6

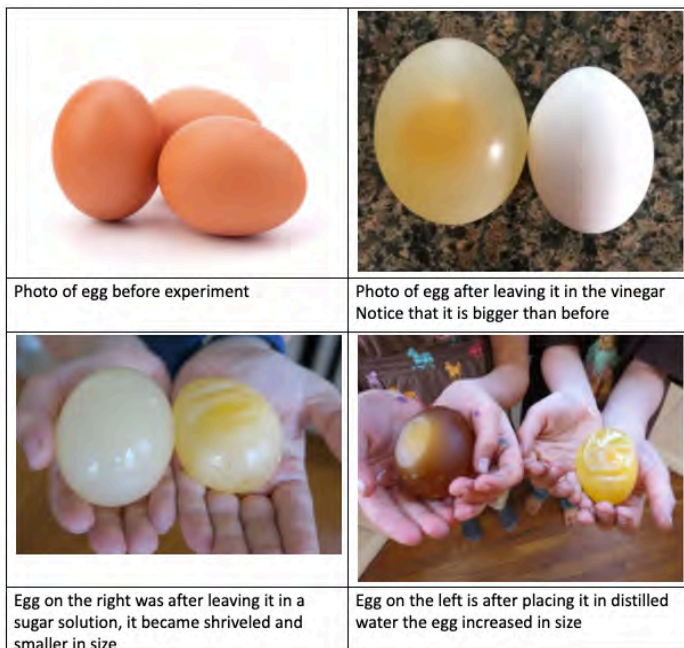
Note: If school is not open, the mode of lesson will be online.



STAY SAFE STAY HOME ACTIVITIES

Biology In Kitchen

Year 3 students were asked to explore Biology in Kitchen (as per the availability of ingredients) and relate to the topic they learnt in the subject. Some videos were shared to explore. Some amazing results were shared by students in the form of pictures and videos.



Osmosis in Egg
by Natalie (3Bio5)



Fermentation in Yeast
by Freia (3Bio1)



Fermentation in Yeast
by Summer Yew (3Bio5)

Some of the following videos made by students are also worth praising:

Enzymes in Pineapple by Larissa Chan (3 Bio 1)
<https://youtu.be/gZocHFBiICU>

Ice-cream Making by Alyssa Kastono (3 Bio 5)
<https://youtu.be/u-gxQnp2EnU>

Students shared the biological concepts they learnt during the process, in the reflection part of the activity. Some unsuccessful investigations were also discussed and explored with limitations. Overall, the students enjoyed the fun activity during HBL.

Ms Shiva Sharma



Melting Point in Ice Cream
by Waine (3Bio1)



Virtual Rehearsals by the Philharmonic Orchestra

During the circuit breaker period, the Philharmonic Orchestra has been holding weekly virtual rehearsals, meeting and playing together over Zoom. Despite the current limitations, we still find ways to continue creating music. Indeed, *"Music is moonlight in the gloomy night of life."* (Jean Paul)

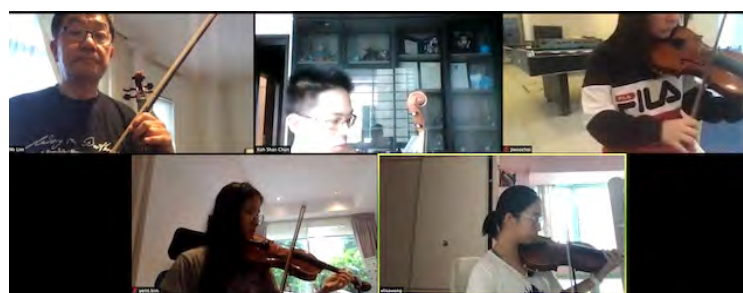
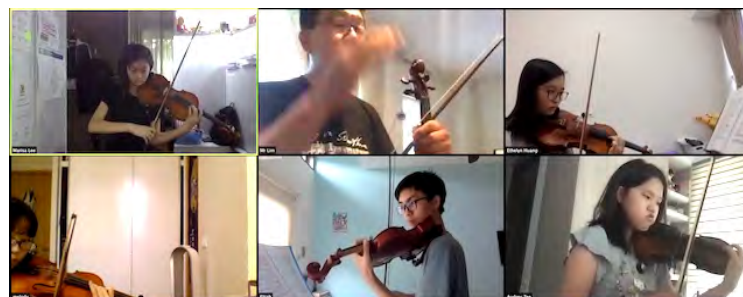
There were several challenges we faced during our Zoom practices. In the beginning, the novelty of virtual practices meant that none of us were accustomed to playing and listening to one another through speakers. As Lenard, one of our cellists, indicated, this was not easy to adjust to and made it difficult to communicate. Violist Lauren and Violinist Melody also agreed that connection problems meant that we often had difficulty playing in sync due to lag and latency issues – at times, the connection would abruptly drop and there would be no sound altogether. Despite these drawbacks, we still enjoyed the practice sessions as they enabled our close-knit orchestra family to bond virtually. As a group, we try to stay optimistic and encourage each other in these "strange" times.

Even though we had problems playing concurrently, the silver lining in this situation allowed us to have more opportunities to practise on our own. According to Fahim and Sams, who both play the cello, the Zoom meetings allow the conductor to hear members play on their own, which helped to improve their individual performance and hone our technical skills. Yerin, another violinist, commented: "It also encourages us to regularly practise although we cannot physically attend practice sessions. Once we are ready, we will be able to do a combined rehearsal with the rest of the Orchestra."

Members of the Wind Band also agree that these Zoom practices are beneficial. Julia, a flautist, thinks that these virtual rehearsals help improve both individual and collaborative skills, as well as allow members to receive one-to-one guidance from instructors and conductors. "By attending Zoom classes, the musicians are still able to interact with their fellow students and conductors, so even when we are at home, we are all still able to play music," added Summer, an oboist. "We don't leave our instruments alone."

Indeed, in these trying times, it is important that we continue making music. After all, as Friedrich Nietzsche said, *"Without music, life is a mistake."*

Ethelyn Huang, 3 Thoburn



National Youth Achievement Award

The National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) is a nationally and internationally recognised award that sees participants completing Healthy Living, Service, Outdoor Appreciation and Leadership Activities to develop their personal skills and give back to the community. This year, 90 students have taken up this challenge, signing up for the Bronze, Silver or Gold level of the award. Many students made an excellent start to their award which involves regular hours of dedication and commitment within their own time.

Kai-Chin Chang (5 GHK), for example, was one of the first students to begin completing activities for her award and has already completed adventurous family camping trips and regular tuition to primary school students. Most impressively, however, as a Gold participant, she is required to identify a need in the community and deliver a solution to solve that need, through the Community Leadership Initiative section. Identifying a need in local hospitals due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Kai-Chin initiated a project delivering goody bags and handwritten cards to medical and cleaning staff. Kai-Chin shared: "I met so amazing people during the project and because of this, it is the part I have enjoyed the most."



One of Kai-Chin's camping trips



Kai-Chin's personal notes to medical and cleaning staff



Kai-Chin tutoring primary school students for the Service Section of her NYAA Award



Kai-Chin delivering goody bags and cards to local hospitals, alongside students from another local school

Chee Yoon Ahn (3 SVM) has also experienced similar enjoyment from her NYAA service project, teaching other students to learn Japanese – a language she has only recently learnt of the basics.



Chee Yoon Ahn (3 SVM) teaching other students Japanese



The restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the circuit breaker measures have made completing many of the activities the students planned for very challenging. Clearly, however, the NYAA participants have much resilience, perseverance and adaptability; as they have devised new and interesting ways to meet the award's requirements whilst being at home.

Many of the students have been learning new cooking and baking skills and putting these to use, they feed their families and local neighbours. **Shermaine Saw (4 Oldham)**, for example, has been cooking for her family at least once a week and learning how to make new local traditional dishes, such as *muh chee* in the process.



Some of the dishes made by Shermaine Saw for her family

Other students, like **Keira Tay (4 Oldham)**, have been getting green fingered and growing plants and fruits and vegetables, learning about appreciating the outdoors even whilst at home.



Keira Tay's cherry tomatoes growing well

Arnav Salkade (6 TKK) has proven that even in this time when social contact with those in need is difficult, there can still be ways of providing help. He showed that he cares by making masks for those in his local community.



Arnav Salkade making masks for the local community

Many other students have also been keeping active and fit, whilst fulfilling the "Healthy Living" requirements by completing home-based workouts and taking up new fitness activities not previously done, such as jogging and skateboarding.

Congratulations to all of our NYAA participants who are doing such great things, both for themselves and others. Keep it up!

Any students who have not yet signed up and are interested in completing the NYAA Award, or would like to find out more, please contact Miss Laura Blunt and also take a look at the ACS NYAA website:

<https://sites.google.com/acsinternational.edu.sg/nyaaacsinternational/home>

Miss Laura Blunt
NYAA and Activities Weeks Coordinator



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS NEWS

Enjoy Being at Home

During the circuit breaker period that commenced on 7 April, guardians and homestay providers ensure the well-being and safety of our international students are well taken care of. We thank them for their kindness and thoughtfulness. Let's take a look at what a few of them have shared:

Here's a peek at what Tian Wei (5 THO) and Mei Yazhu (5 CKS) (both from China) did during the circuit breaker period... studying, enjoying a hotpot, playing games and having a BBQ!



*Mdm Ng Chuey Hong
Guardian and Homestay Provider*

Besides attending "school" on weekdays, a few activities that Aryaman Ashok Shankar (3 Thoburn) (United States of America) engaged in included taking time to do a painting as Mother's Day gift for his mother, preparing his own dinner and playing indoor table tennis with his guardian using a makeshift table tennis table!



*Mrs Candice Yong
Guardian and Homestay Provider*



In order to ensure that Thammatouch Chantasarn (Kao) (1 Oldham) (Thailand) is "away" from his mobile, we have after-dinner games daily: Pandemic, Monopoly Cheaters Edition, Cluedo, Exploding Kittens and more...

*Ms Audrey Bih Yok Cheng
Guardian*

Both Kim Gaeun (3 Oldham) and Lee Seohyeon (3 Thoburn) enjoyed eating Korean meals and celebrating birthdays!

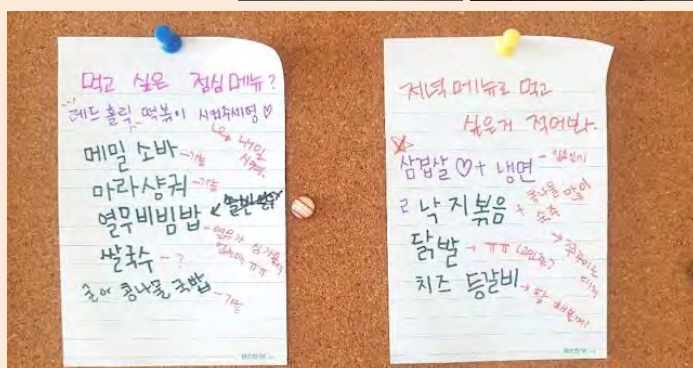


*Ms Hong Ae Ran
Homestay Provider*



We make sure our students, Heo Ji Won (6 GHK), Min Sora (6 SVM) Lee Solbin (6 CKS) and Ham Ji Min (5 LSG) make full use of their time during the Circuit Breaker period. Firstly, our students have been cooking and baking their favourite meals in our kitchen area, both for leisure as well as for their CAS projects. We also asked for the dishes they crave and prepared them for a few meals.

We also revamped our rooftop to create a space for the students to exercise, when they take a breather from studying. Some of them go there to watch sunrise/sunset and have a hearty talk with their friends. Last but not least, we created a conducive space in the living room for those who want to enjoy a different studying environment.



Ms Choi In Kyung
Guardian and Homestay Provider

My homestay, Megan Man (6 TTK) (Singapore), Indah (6 GHK) (Indonesia), Yu Naifei (6 SVM) and Fu Jiaqi (6 Thoburn) (both from China), were kept busy with story-telling, and honing their culinary skills making cakes, crepes, pizzas and even dumplings!



Mrs Irene Tan
Guardian and Homestay Provider

Inter-House Short Film Competition

Congratulations to all who participated in the Inter-House Short Film competition. Many students, teachers and family members made appearances in the Well-Being videos. Arranged by our new Head of House Natalie Chew and House Captains, the short videos conveyed a message about keeping well during home based learning. Well done, all!

Overall Top Three Houses

- 1 LSG
- 2 SVM & GHK

Senior Division

- 1 LSG
- 2 SVM
- 3 GHK

Middle Division

- 1 LSG
- 2 TCT
- 3 Oldham

Junior Division

- 1 Thoburn
- 2 CKS
- 3 LSG



ACS (INDEPENDENT) BOARDING SCHOOL NEWS

Pet Beans Project

The Villagers, the term our students at ACS (Independent) Boarding school are affectionately known as, embarked on another project in April. This time, each of them was to be a farmer for pet beans. To grow something and see it live is something beautiful to watch in the midst of COVID-19 circuit breaker. It was launched as a “Grow the Best Pet Beans” competition and judged by Mr Kinch. The “Best Pet Beans Farmer” Award went to Olivia Anh, 3 SVM!



ALUMNI NEWS

The school congratulates our alumnus, Chen Xingyu (former 6 Thoburn, Class of 2019) who received the School Scholarship from the National Technological University to pursue the 4-year course in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. We wish her all the best in her endeavours.

Read about Xingyu who was first featured in the [February](#) issue.



UPCOMING EVENTS

May	Event
25 May to 26 June	• Term 2 School Break
June	Event
26	• New Student Orientation (09:00–16:00)
29	• Term 3 Starts (on school campus)
July	Event
01	• House Assembly (08:00–08:35)
02	• 'O' Level Prelim Oral (after school dismissal) • Parents Prayer Group (08:00–09:00)
03	• O' Level Prelim Oral (after school dismissal) • Chapel (08:00–08:35)

Dear Parents,

Our school has been collaborating with Elevate Education to bring to you a live webinar, to help support you and your children. It will help you as parents understand the **psychology of student motivation** and how you, as parents, can use that to motivate your children without becoming the enemy.

Event Title

How to help your child manage their time effectively and overcome distractions at home

Date

Thursday, 26 May 2020

Time

6:00pm –7:00 pm (GMT +8)

Sign-Up Link

<https://www.elevatecoaching.info/webinar-asia-int/>

Cost

Free

Please click on the sign-up link above to register. Some of our teachers will be attending this as well, so we encourage you to attend this.

Excellence in Music

Barrett Music

2020 Online Music Competition

Piano . Strings . Woodwinds
Brass . Vocal . Original Music

1. To participate, record your performance using your mobile phone device.
2. The video duration of each submission is to be within a minimum of 1.5 mins to a maximum of 4 minutes. You may wish to perform only some parts of the music.
3. Send the file via Wettransfer to Mr Philip Tan at: philip.tan@acsinternational.edu.sg
4. Please include your full name, song title, year and house group.
5. Closing date for submission : 10 July 2020.

The 3rd Student Affairs presents

THE ACS DESIGN CHALLENGE



DESIGN THEME: CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

- Looking for ideas to enhance the school's physical environment
- **What to Do:** Identify an area in the school that you would like to enhance, create a visual representation of your idea
- **How to Submit:** scan the QR code
- **Deadline:** 12pm, 22nd June
- **Prize:** any coupon you like up to S\$20!!
- **Tag:** #change4thebetter#

**DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO
MAKE YOUR MARK ON ACS!**

