



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Happy 130th birthday ACS! Birthdays are family occasions and times of celebration, remembrance and opportunities which serve to strengthen the bonds which hold families together. Founder's Day is our ACS family birthday celebration and on Tuesday we celebrated 130 years since Bishop Oldham established the first ACS school and 11 years since Bishop Solomon dedicated ACS (International). This year's Guest of Honour was Mr Lim Tat, an illustrious ACS Old Boy who is enjoying an outstanding career in the legal profession, and who continues to serve and give back to the ACS community. He gave an inspiring and informative message about his time at ACS - both primary to secondary – and showed photos of his time at ACS. He spoke about the life, faith and friendships that he enjoyed at ACS. He also said that although many things may change over time, in other ways they remain unchanged – referring to 'ACS DNA' and Bishop Oldham's vision for students to be challenged and inspired by their teachers, and going on to serve others.

The theme of this year's 130th Founder's Day celebration adopted by all ACS schools is 'Called to Serve: Our Hearts, Our Hopes, Our Aims are One', based on Galatians 5:13 ("...serve one another humbly in love"). Service is at the heart of the Christian gospel, and is also at the heart of ACS. The Bishop of the Methodist Church of Singapore, Dr Wee Boon Hup, focussed on this theme during his Founder's Day message, read to the assembly by our Chaplain, Rev Joel Yong. The President of the ACSOBA, Mr Cheo Chai Hong, also gives an annual message, this year delivering it in person at our Founder's Day ceremony. He spoke about the strengths of being an ACSian and of receiving an ACS education. He said that today there are over 10,000 students currently attending ACS schools. A significant and growing community and community force.

At last year's Founder's Day we launched SG50 ActS – a joint initiative from the six ACS schools to celebrate Singapore's 50th birthday. The six schools undertook a total of over 50 Acts of Service during 2015, both in Singapore and abroad. ACS (International) contributed 10 Acts and helped lead two combined ACS projects. A summary video of the completed 50 ActS was shown at all six ACS Founder's Day celebrations on Tuesday.

Our Founder's Day celebration was also attended by Board chairman Mr Tan Wah Thong, founding Principal, Rev Dr John Barrett, and members of the Board of Management. The ceremony featured musical and dance performances by our students ranging from classical music to modern dance. Top academic and all-round prizes for 2015 were also presented. See elsewhere for details.

On Sunday Holland Village Methodist Church is holding the annual ACS Sunday service, held in conjunction with Founder's Day. School community members are welcome to attend the service which starts at 10.30am.

Next week is the last week of Term 1 and we wish everyone a safe and enjoyable week's break from lessons.

Rob Burrough

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FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Last month the ACS (International) school Christian Ministry invited the Band “Awaken Generation band” featuring Stacy the main lead singer of the band.



The band presented 3 songs at the Chapel session - Hiding Place, Waves and Zion’s Praise. Stacey shared her life’s journey and about how she came to fulfil her dream of being a songwriter. She shared about the organization (Awaken Generation) that she is part of and how it provided her the platform to develop her passion for music & song writing. In all, it was a great Chapel session – just one of the many that takes place each Friday at ACS International, and we are looking forward to many more great chapel sessions over the rest of the year!

STAFF NEWS

We welcome part time Chinese teacher Mdm Jasmine Lee Kiat Bing to the staff for 2016.

UNIFORM MATTERS

Please note the following regulations:

PE Uniform: Students may not wear PE kit to school. All students should arrive to school in full school uniform. Similarly, students must not wear PE kit to lessons /tutor / PSHE / assembly / Chapel. All students are given ample time after and between lessons in order to change out of their PE attire and into their school uniform.

Tattoos: These are not allowed.

Hair: A reminder that hair should be of a natural colour and kept tidy. Boys should ensure that their hair is kept short.

NOTICES

Restricted Entry to School by Vehicles at Start of the Day

Due to the heavy congestion at the school gate by both vehicles and foot traffic we restrict vehicle entry to the school grounds to just staff cars between 7.30 and 8.10am.

This means that parents are not able to enter the school grounds to drop off their children. All drop offs must be outside the main gate at the drop off zone. On wet days however, parents will still be able to access the covered drop off zone outside the Administration Block.

With an increased roll there is increased congestion at the school entrance and students on foot are contributing to that. Parents are encouraged to make use of the back gate via Holland Close as a much less congested alternative to drop off their children. (see map below for details).



Parents Prayer Meetings

Parents are encouraged to join the school’s parents’ prayer group which meets each month. Come pray for your children, students and school and be encouraged by the prayer support in the prayer group. Meeting dates are

8 April
6 May
8 July
5 Aug
7 Oct
4 Nov

The time is from 8:15 am to 9.30 in the John Wesley Hall, 6th level Sports Block.

For more information, please contact Lorraine on 97592133.

ICAS Science 2016: An opportunity for all Year 3 Students

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is a highly regarded assessment programme for schools offering examinations in Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science and Writing. ICAS is organised by the University of New South Wales. The cost fee of \$9 per student for Science will be waived by the school.

Results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely. The students will receive comprehensive hard copy and online reports on their performance in each subject.

This year all Year 3 students will be entered in Science which involves being given an hour to attempt 45 multiple choice questions. It will take place on Tuesday 19 April from 3.30 to 4.30pm in the Science laboratories. Students will be required to apply their knowledge, skills and understanding across five skills areas of observing / measuring, interpreting, predicting / concluding, investigating and reasoning / problem solving.

For more information you can visit the UNSW Singapore Office website at www.singapore.unsw.edu.au/ICAS/about-icas.

Alternatively you can email Mr Hong Ching Chong, the teacher in charge of this competition at chingchong.hong@acsinternational.com.sg for any clarification.

Your child can also prepare for ICAS using ACS (International) Firefly portal under Teaching & Learning / Science / Competitions and Enrichment / International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) / Past Year Papers. Past years' ICAS papers (2013, 2014, 2015) are available, with answers.

Coffee Morning and Back to School Party 2016

"When we walk into a school and see parents and teachers working together, in all sorts of roles, it's a sure sign that the school challenges the very best in students and helps all, regardless of race, class, or culture, realize their fullest potential."

*- from The Home-School Team:
An Emphasis on Parent Involvement by James P. Horner and Norris Haynes,
Yale Child Study Center.*

Nearly 100 parents, more than half of whom are new to ACS (International), attended the first PSP Coffee Morning on 28 January 2016. To them, we say a heartfelt thank you for joining us and making the morning, especially the Q & A session with the Principal, so lively and informative.

The Back to School Party (B2SP) on 11 February was a fun afternoon filled with lots of delicious delicacies, laughter and music. More than twenty parents sponsored a variety of our students' all-time favourite foods and also helped with setting up the stalls and manning them throughout the event. Thank you, parents, for your generosity which contributed towards another successful B2SP organised by the School Student Council. The B2SP also provided a great opportunity for everyone to bond with one another and to learn more about school life at ACS (International).

You may view photos from both these events as well as previous PSP events on this link, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/ACS-International-PSP/457464777685030>. Please feel free to email us, on acspsp.net@gmail.com, if you would like to find out more about PSP activities. We always look forward to hearing from you.

PSP Exco



STUDENT SUCCESSES

Founder's Day Award Winners

The following premier awards were presented at Tuesday's Founder's Day celebration.

Han Pok Fong Award – for Top Academic Student

Year 6 – Ariane Ruppli

Year 4 – Evangeline Leong and Zhu Menggi (equal)

OBA Award for Top All-Round Student

OBA Year 6 (Gold) – Deandra Mulliawan

OBA Year 4 (Gold) – Dhruv Uppal

OBA Year 6 (Silver) – Risa Tan

OBA Year 4 (Silver) – Lim Jia Ling

Yuan Xiao Festival 元宵节



Yuan Xiao Festival occurs on the 15th day of Chinese New Year. A few Year 3 and 5 Chinese classes were given the opportunity to learn how to make their own rice dumpling. From kneading to rolling to wrapping the ingredients, the hands-on experience allows students to participate in this tradition, and at the same time find out the differences between tang yuan and yuan xiao, the origin and the customs that one follows. As the lesson came to a closure, everyone tasted their own tang yuan with a greater sense of appreciation.

Year 6 IB Seminar



On 26 February all Year 6 students participated in the IB Seminar 2016 jointly organized by ACS (International) and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore. The theme for the Seminar was "Identities in a Global world: What Defines Us?" The day consisted of short lectures followed by field trips to different locations in Singapore, where students were able to have hands-on experience in discovering how local and global identities in Singapore are manifested on ethnic, national and regional scales.



Students and TOK teachers were led by faculty members from NUS to three venues: Amoy Street, Crossings Cafe and the Asian Civilizations Museum, where they had an extremely memorable and enriching experience.

Chinese New Year Dinner for International Students

The joyous occasion held on 20 February 2016, organized by the Holland Village Methodist Church and the International Students Pastoral Care Committee, was a time where everybody of different ethnicities could enjoy an authentic Chinese (Lunar) New Year dinner. Besides the traditional buffet dinner with friends around round tables tapered with red cloth, they were entertained with a wide variety of games.

Before eating, we had an opening speech by Mr. MacLean, followed by grace said by the Holland Village Methodist Church Chaplain, Rev Goh. A fast-paced round of musical chairs accompanied with Chinese New Year music raised the excitement in the hall. One of the games was that of searching for red packets pasted directly under our chairs. Those who found the red packets were greeted with a pleasant surprise: \$10 Daily Scoop voucher! Like every proper Lunar New Year celebration, there was the traditional 'Lou Hei' but even this was given an additional fun twist.

A competition of who could eat Lou Hei the fastest soon had all at the table gobbling up as quickly as they could. That eating spree was followed by Mrs. MacLean serenading us with her own rendition of "Can't Take my Eyes of You".

During the dinner, the international students took the stage and we were treated to a variety of talented performances. The performed an array of solos, duets and dance performances; some conducted in their own native languages. After a group photo, the students stayed for an exciting game of Running Man, inspired by the famous Korean series.



All in all, it was an extremely enjoyable event where the international students could experience the diverse culture of Singapore and traditional Chinese gatherings and all were proud to be part of this pioneer event!

*Lim Mun Yiang
5 SVM*



The Harvard Model United Nations Conference 2016

Last month 14 students, accompanied by Mr. Nehemiah Olwande and Miss Divya Jesudoss, participated in the Harvard Model United Nations Conference held in Boston, MA. This conference attracted 3500 student delegates from over 36 countries around the world. Our delegation was a very international one too. We had our Korean, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Indian and Singaporean students, representing Zimbabwe. We were also part of a wide range of committees including: ECOFIN, Legal, SPECPOL, ECOSOC, NGOs such as the International AIDS Vaccination Initiative and The Foundation for AIDS research, SOCHUM, WHO and The Tunisia Post-Revolutionary Government.

After months of research preparation, the delegates debated on a wide range of global issues such as Bioethics, Currency Manipulation, The Treatment of Political Prisoners, AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and even Human Experimentation. During the committee sessions, the delegates presented their views and discussed various perspectives with fellow delegates from countries as far as Peru and France to other Asian countries such as Pakistan and Japan. The delegates then collaborated extensively with their fellow committee-members to draft and debate on Resolution Papers to resolve the pertinent world issues. Three delegates, Leo Koo Ja Hyun, Naveen Venkat, and Dhruv Uppal, managed to gain Honourable Mentions at the end of the conference in their respective committees. They are pictured below.



Besides the conference, the delegation was lucky enough to tour the Harvard Campus and gain a glimpse into the lives of the students there. In addition, we enriched ourselves in Bostonian culture, visiting the Museum of Fine Arts and the site of the Boston Tea Party.

Learning to set aside differences to work towards the common good, we made the most of this grand opportunity to test our negotiation, collaboration and communication skills.

We are grateful to the parents of the student delegates who challenged the delegates with their questions during mock debates. Indeed, we saw the strength of unity in diversity. We have learned how to work together, personalizing the issue to stir us to action and being diplomatic in protecting national sovereignty. HMUN 2016 was an incredibly fruitful and unique experience that allowed the delegates to experience the prestige and demanding competition of a Harvard event as well as the wonder of Boston. As Zig Ziglar said, '... success is in the doing, not in the getting; in the trying, not in the triumph'. This is how success is measured in The Envoy Club. We are proud of our Headliners!



Envoy Club Students

ACSIS Season 2 Round Up

Season 2 of ACSIS (Athlete Conference of Singapore International Schools) actually starts in late November and plays through until early February. This means that for all our sports teams we have to play the majority of competitive ACSIS fixtures during a 3-4 week period at the start of the academic year in January having had little or no preparation time.

Many teams have been playing up to 2, 3 or even 4 fixtures a week in order to complete the leagues. This requires huge levels of commitment from students, coaches and teachers-in-charge which should be commended.

U14 ACSIS

Netball CCA entered three teams in the U14 ACSIS league this year in Divisions two and three, coached by Miss Georgie, Miss Biggs and Miss Kerry.



All three teams played extremely well and made fantastic progress. A special mention goes to the new Year 1 girls who represented the school in this league during their first week of school. The A team just missed out on a bronze medal finishing fourth out of nine teams, a fantastic achievement. We are now looking forward to the start of the U19 ACSIS league.

Tennis

The U19 Boys Tennis team played in the ACSIS Div 1 league against UWC East, UWC Dover, Chatsworth International, Stamford American International School and the Canadian International School. The boys placed 4th in their group having had several close matches. The team bonded well and learnt very much from the games and the experience.

The U19 Girls Tennis team played in the ACSIS Div 2 league against UWC East, UWC Dover, Stamford American International School and the Canadian International School. Although the matches were tough for our young and inexperienced girls' team, they played well and learnt so much from every game. The team ended up finishing in 3rd position in their league, winning the bronze medal, an excellent achievement.

Basketball

Both the U16 and U19 Boys Basketball teams each competed in the respective Div 1 ACSIS Basketball league. This was the first year either team had entered Div 1, where all the top international school teams in Singapore such as UWC Dover, UWC East, OFS, AIS and SAS compete. Considering the level of competition, both teams should feel proud of their achievements in these leagues. The U16 team placed 7th and the U19 team ended up finishing in 4th place, losing to OFS by 33-47 in the 3rd place play-off game. Special mention to captains Nathan Lai (6GHK) and Sean Phang (5TKK) who captained and led their teams by example.

Rugby

The U16 Boys Rugby team competed in Div 1 against some of the top international Rugby schools in Singapore. After tough defeats to LFS and Tanglin and an improved performance against UWC East, the team rallied well to record an excellent win over the Canadian International School, meaning they finished the season in 6th place of 8 teams. Special mention goes to Myeong Jun Choi (4GHK) for several excellent performances within fixtures and a great attitude during training.

Touch

Asian All Schools Championships 2015

On 21 November 2015 ACS entered an U14 and U16 team into the AAS Championships, one of the largest Touch tournaments in SE Asia. The girls played their hearts out on a very hot day, playing some good touch against tough opposition. Both teams ended up bringing home medals with the U14 team coming runners up in their division and the U16 team finishing joint 3rd in the Bowl competition.

ACSIS Division 3

The U19 Touch team entered Div 3 in ACSIS Season 2. The team was comprised of a mix of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students who combined brilliantly throughout the season. The girls played well in all games and ended the season undefeated as U19 Div 3 Champions! This was a great achievement from a developing team who look forward to competing in Div 2 next year.

ACSOBA Past vs Present Football 9-a-side Tournament

This year a record 14 teams competed in this annual friendly tournament held at ACS (Independent). As well as sending our senior footballers, we also entered our staff team.

The senior boys played well but narrowly missed out on a place in the semi-finals. The staff team, however, defeated ACS06 in the semi-finals and then beat ACS (Independent) 2-0 in an exhilarating final. Both goals were scored by Mr Rajan. The staff team was the only one to not concede a goal throughout the tournament, due to our defensive pillars Mr Molloy and Mr Thompson and also the safe hands of goalie, ACS old boy Andhika.

Football

The U14 Boys Football team competed in the ACSIS Div 4 league. The team ended up in 3rd place in the division but were 1 minute away from being crowned champions. Congratulations to all the boys for giving their best and for enjoying themselves, especially the Year 1's who gave their very best despite having just one pre-season training session- great ambassadors of our school.

Football CCA Results

U14 ACSIS League

vs Dover Court drew 1-1

vs Global Indian drew 2-2

vs Nexus won 3-1

vs International Community School won 3-1

vs Yuvabharathi won 7-0

vs International School of Singapore lost 2-1

vs Tanglin Trust won 16-0

The team finished 3rd and were awarded the bronze medal. A great achievement for a team consisting mostly of Year 1 boys playing against much bigger 14-yr olds.

Junior Inter-House Football Competition

1st TCT

2nd SVM

3rd TKK

4th CKS

5th THO

6th OLD

7th LSG

8th GHK

U17 MOE Football 'B' Division

This is always a tough tournament for our under-17 boys as it starts almost as soon as we start school. This year the boys had just one training session before the opening match. In addition, we only managed to put together a squad of 16 boys, whilst other schools filled all their 20 places. The boys competed well but lost all five games and will now attend training, get fit and look forward to tournaments in the later part of the year.

Volleyball

ACS (International) entered a team in the U14 girls ACSIS league for the first time this season. A group of 3 students managed to find enough friends in order to make a team and with minimal practice or experience the team entered the Div 2 league. After losing two very close matches, gradually the team's performances began to improve as they beat both CIS and SAIS. Eventually the team ended up qualifying for the 3rd/4th place play-off against GESS. In a very close game the girls came out on top winning 28-26 in the final set, and winning the bronze medal- a great achievement!

U14 Volleyball CCA



Last year, I was told I was chosen to be captain of the Under-14 Volleyball Girls team. We only had three players, and I was asked to gather a team of six within three days. This was a challenge as volleyball was not very popular amongst the juniors. Luckily, three of my friends agreed to help at the last minute. The day before school began in 2016, six of us came to school for our first match. We had our very first training session, not just for that year but overall, about half an hour before the opponents, UWCD arrived. Although we didn't win, it was a very close game (23-25 in the 3rd set) which came as a surprise to all of us as only three of us had volleyball experience. We had two more matches which were also close games.

Eventually, we won two games in a row against CIS and SAIS. We lost the next two matches but we ended up playing for 3rd-4th position for Division 2, which may not seem so amazing to some but is beyond what I initially imagined we could do. During the finals, we played GESS. It was a very close game and we won 2-1 with the score in the final set being 28-26, allowing us to place 3rd overall throughout the entire league for Division 2. Being captain helped my leadership skills, helped me make new friends, and I learned to work with different people. I am proud of the result based on the number of players and experience. Thank you to Mr Molloy for being our coach throughout. The Best Is Yet To Be.

Emily Kriebisch Year 2

Singapore Carded Athlete

Congratulations to Charity Lien Tian-Yi (Year 1) who has just been named as a carded athlete in swimming. She joins fellow student and SEA Fencing silver medalist, Aloysius Low, in this elite group. As a carded athlete she is sponsored by the Singapore government for her sports-related matters. Charity is ranked second in the 50m freestyle for her age group, 12 – 13 year old girls. Her next major competition is the Singapore National Age Group Swimming Championships on 16-20 March.

Year 1 Netball Tournament



On 16 February 2016 our Year 1 girls cheered, screamed and shouted in sheer delight during the 2016 Year 1 Netball Tournament, an annual event organized by the PE department in collaboration with the Year 6 senior girls. Since the beginning of the year, leading up to this event, the Year 6 girls spent PE lessons acquiring new skills of netball and learning rules of gameplay. Additionally, as the Year 6s were in charge, they prepared game fixtures, took on umpiring roles and recorded scores for each match.



As Year 6 students we had 2 primary goals - to carry out a successful, smooth sailing tournament, and to ensure that everyone enjoyed themselves alike. It was extremely heart-warming to witness the Year 1's, full of excitement, come together and forge friendships over a game of netball. Throughout the tournament we saw teams huddled together spurring one another on and pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones. It was truly rewarding to know how much they enjoyed themselves and to see them develop greater appreciation and understanding of teamwork, commitment and perseverance.

Alicia Chong
6 SVM

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH	EVENT
10	• Inter House Music competition
11	• End of Term 1 • Japan Ski Trip departs (11-19 March)
12	• Thinkers Day
14-18	• School Holiday
21	• Term 2 begins • Religious Emphasis Week (21-23 March)
21	• CIS Review (21-24 March)
25	• Good Friday (School closed)
28	• Higher Education Fair
29	• Parent Teachers Meeting (08:30 – 16:00)

APRIL	EVENT
1	• International Day
2	• World Vision Symposium
5	• Inter-House Badminton competition
8-9	• School Prefect/Ambassadors/Student Council Leadership Camp
13	• Singapore Schools Swimming Championships
16	• School Production Camp

ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED!

Higher Education Fair 2016

Monday 28 March

3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Discuss your education plans, talk to admissions officers and get some inside tips on the university application process. Participating Institutions/Organizations will have booths in the Sports Hall.

- National University of Singapore
- Nanyang Technological University
- Singapore Management University
- Singapore University of Technology and Design
- Singapore Institute of Technology
- Yale-NUS Singapore
- SIM Global Education
- Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts NAFA
- LaSalle College of the Arts Singapore
- British Council Singapore (Study in the UK)
- University of Warwick
- IDP Singapore (Study in Australia)
- Curtin Singapore
- University of Melbourne
- James Cook University (Singapore Campus)
- Asia Business and Education (Study in New Zealand)
- Knowledge Intellegentia Enterprise Pte Ltd – (Study in New Zealand)
- USEIC (Study in the USA)
- Education USA (Study in the USA)
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Asia
- DigiPen Institute of Technology Singapore
- Study in Canada
- Campus France Singapore (Study in France)
- IESEG School of Management (French Business School)
- TUM Asia (German Institute of Science and Technology)
- Jacob University (Germany)
- Swiss Education Group
- Laureate Hospitality Education – Les Roches & Glion
- Testrocker
- Testtakers Singapore
- ICON – The Test Preparation Specialist
- Management Development Institute of Singapore (MDIS)
- SP Jain School of Global Management Singapore
- IE University
- UCAM - Universidad Católica San Antonio de Murcia (Spain)

