



## ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

### Dear Parents, Students and Friends

**Parents Satisfaction Survey** Our sincere thanks to all those parents who completed this survey over the past fortnight. The results show that the vast majority of parents are generally satisfied with the quality of education at ACS (International) with 75.2% of parents rating the school 7 / 10 or better. The mode, or most common score was 8 / 10. The highest rated reasons for sending their children to ACS (International) were academic results, value-added results, quality of staff, small class sizes and international curricula. That said, the survey also indicated some areas where we could communicate better, and there were comments both about outstanding teachers and some variable teaching practices. Some of these areas are addressed in a further section elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our thanks to all those parents and students who attended the recent PTM meetings. The teachers always appreciate being able to discuss progress with both student and teacher present. The combining of the IGCSE and IB Diploma Information meetings with the PTMs was a trial initiative to avoid another night meeting. Any feedback on whether the combined event was suitable or not would be appreciated.

This week is the last week of term and we congratulate those students who gained Commendation Certificates as a result of very good term grades. Principal's List and Distinction awardees are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

The recent Olympic Games has produced many examples of outstanding achievement, and stories abound of athletes who have succeeded against all odds. We have used some of these examples in talks in house and school assemblies. The vast majority of Olympic athletes do not receive a medal. At the Rio Games there were 10,000 athletes, 207 nations, 31 sports, 27 world records and 306 sets of medals. Over 90% of athletes returned home without a medal. Not everyone has the ability of a Schooling, Phelps or Bolt. Similarly, despite working very hard many students were not able to get on the Principal's List. Have they failed? No! For some, their time has yet to come, and for others they should be looking to compare themselves with themselves, not with others; that is, seek continual improvement and achieving personal bests. We each have different gifts, and we each excel in different ways.

We wish those travelling over the coming two week holiday a safe and enjoyable break, and remind Year 4 and Year 6 students especially that the holidays are a time for some rest and also time for uninterrupted note making and revision time in preparation for the coming examinations.

**Rob Burrough**



ACS (International)

September 2016

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Staff News
- Parents Satisfaction Survey
- Communication with Teachers
- Recruiting Teachers
- Loss of Teachers Through the Year
- Student Surveys of Teachers
- New Security Company
- Year 1 Direct School Admission
- Year 5 IBDP Direct Admission
- 2017 IBDP Internal Scholarships
- IB Scholarships 2016 – 17
- IB, IGCSE & O-Level Examination Schedules
- Predicted Grades
- Year 4 & 6 Study Nights
- Slow & Safe Driving Near School
- Principal / Distinction List for Effort & Achievement
- On the way to Broadway
- International Competitions & Assessment
- Alumni Update
- Singapore International Math Olympiad Championship
- Team Singapore for Golf
- Schooling and our Students
- Ambassador's World Vision Fundraising Campaign
- Willing Hearts
- Strings Concert
- Concert in the Dark
- IB Higher Level Drama
- Alumni BBQ
- Amazing Science Challenge
- Science at ACS (International)
- Farm Tour
- Rock Climbing CCA
- Sports Tournament
- The Darren Loh Cup IV
- Upcoming Events

**STAFF NEWS**

Over the past month we have farewelled the following staff – Ms Divya Jesudoss (Psychology) to a promoted senior leadership position in China; Ms Eiliyah Yeo (English) to maternity leave followed by a new career re-training as a Teacher Librarian; and Mr Grant Aitken (Geography and IIE) who is returning to New Zealand for family reasons. We are sorry to lose their services as each was fully involved in the life of the school but we sincerely thank them for their commitment to ACS (International) during their time with us and we wish them well in their new ventures.

As replacements we welcome Ms Stephanie Dawes, a UK A Levels Examiner in Psychology; and Ms Claire Tan from Hwa Chong Institution (Junior College) in English and Geography. We are pleased with the quality of our new colleagues and we wish them an enjoyable and rewarding time with us.

Congratulations to Mr Ian Parry who has been appointed as Housemaster of SVM from Term 4 replacing Ms Divya.

Congratulations to Mrs Nellie Stoilova in Careers on the safe arrival of her new son.

**NOTICES****Parents Satisfaction Survey**

Further to the comments in the Principal's commentary on Page 1, we again thank all those parents who completed the survey. Extra comments supplied at the end of the questionnaire were also appreciated. Both positive and constructive comments were made. Some representative comments included:

*"I am happy that my daughter has been given the opportunity to study at ACS (International). The system here is highly encouraging as I feel that it empowers the students to explore and stretch their abilities ... and helps them aspire to do the best they can."*

*"We appreciate all the efforts of the staff to take care of the students academically and spiritually. We are so glad our children can experience this lovely environment..."*

*"Teachers should serve the full academic year and not be permitted to leave during the year."*

*"Teachers can not be reached by phone"*

*"We appreciate the opportunity to comment here. Students should also be asked for their opinion"*

*"My child is much happier here than her local school"*

*"We are very proud that our children go to this school".*

The survey indicated some extra communication is required. We would make the following comments and clarifications.

**Communication with Teachers**

In addition to face-to-face conversation the expected method of communication with teachers is by using the teacher's school email address. Teachers are expected to reply within 24 hours during the week days. Teachers are not encouraged to give students or parents their own personal phone number, nor join a WhatsApp group with students using their own personal phone. However, some key staff have school phones which are used for verbal and electronic communication including school WhatsApp groups.

**Recruiting Teachers**

When ACS (International) was set up 11 ½ years ago the policy was to recruit 50% Singaporean teachers and 50% international teachers. This ratio is still required today. Vacancies are advertised both locally (required by law) and internationally. A short list for interview is selected based on academic qualifications and relevant experience. All short listed applicants are interviewed either in person or by Skype. Referees reports are sought. The teacher with the best fit based on qualifications, relevant experience, up to date pedagogy and teaching ability, and 'soft skills' is offered the position. The school re-advertises if we are not satisfied with the calibre of applicants. All teachers must be approved by the Ministry of Education. They are offered initial three year contracts, and these are extended by mutual agreement. The current three year contract cycle ends this December.

**Loss of Teachers Through the Year**

The Ministry of Education requires the three privately funded local schools – ACS (International), SJI and Hwa Chong – to operate a southern hemisphere academic year like local MoE schools. This puts us at a disadvantage when recruiting and replacing international teachers as most international schools as well as northern hemisphere countries have a different academic year, usually from August to June. We compete with these schools for international staff, and most international school teachers are only able to change schools in August at the end of contract. We try to minimise loss of staff during the year by only giving end-of-year bonuses to staff who finish the year with us. No bonus is awarded to staff who leave during the year.

**Student Surveys of Teachers**

Every student is asked to complete an annual survey on the teaching and learning in every subject that they take. These surveys are used by the individual teachers as part of the self improvement process, plus by Heads of Faculty and Senior Leadership as part of the annual appraisal and performance review of teachers. These surveys are taken seriously and are an important feature of our school.



## New Security Company

We have just finalised a change of security company, and like all changes in the security industry, the changes are immediate. This week Henderson Security was replaced by Global Ritz Protection Pte Ltd. The new company is providing new security guards and they will take time to get to know people. Close checking will therefore take more time than usual. We ask for patience from the school community. We are considering identity tags to help improve our security. Other changes may occur and these will be advised as they are confirmed.

## Year 1 Direct School Admission

The school is currently accepting applications for the Direct Admissions programme to Year 1 in 2017. Direct Admissions applicants should contact the Admissions Department to arrange to sit the English and Mathematics entrance tests. All applicants also undertake an oral interview with a senior member of staff. DSA applicants who do not pass the DSA process are still eligible to reapply after the PSLE results are published in November.

## Year 5 IBDP Direct Admission

Parents and guardians of students in Year 4 who have gained direct and guaranteed admission to next year's IB Diploma Programme were mailed letters of offer this week. Their place is secured by completing the new Enrolment Contract Form and returning by 23 September. Other IGCSE students are still able to gain entry in the Diploma programme by gaining at least 2As, 2Bs, and 2Cs in the IGCSE examination.

## ACS (International) 2017 IBDP Internal Scholarships

Applications are invited from ACS (International) 2016 Year 4 students for the above 2017 scholarships worth \$10,000 each. There are 3 scholarships available.

The successful applicants will have demonstrated:

1. Outstanding academic achievement throughout Year 4
2. Strong contribution to co-curricular and / or House activities
3. Ability to achieve highly in the IB Diploma Programme and give back to the school.

The scholarships will be used to offset the Year 5 IBDP tuition fees. \$5000 will be deducted from the fees payable for each of Semester 1 and Semester 2.

Applications to the Principal consisting of a letter of application listing achievements and contributions to the school close 30 September 2016.

## ACS (International) IB Scholarships 2016 – 17

The school offers two full and two half fees scholarships to external students currently studying in Singapore who wish to complete their IB Diploma at ACS (International).

Full details are found on the school website

<http://www.acsinternational.com.sg/study/information-about/scholarships>.

## IB, IGCSE & O-Level Examination Schedules

These key dates can be found on the school intranet via the following URL:

<https://intranet.acsinternational.com.sg/api/subwebs/?id=37>.

## Predicted Grades

Some institutions require either the Preliminary Grades or the Predicted Grades. These grades are not necessarily the same and it is necessary for the student to check carefully which grades are required. ACS (International) does not release Predicted Grades to parents or students as per school policy. In cases where Predicted Grades are required for application elsewhere, the student must make arrangements with the school for them to be sent by courier to the institution or to a reputable agent dealing with the application on their behalf. The current fee for the courier is \$50.

## Year 4 and 6 Study Nights

The PSP and school are again hosting extended study nights in the Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays once Year 4 and 6 study leave starts in October. The Library stays open until 8.00 pm with light refreshments provided by PSP. The study nights begin on Thursday 6 October and finish on Thursday 10 November.

## Slow and Safe Driving Near School

Parents driving their children to school are reminded to be considerate of the residents and young children in the area, especially in terms of driving slowly and parking in front of the residents gates whilst waiting to pick up students after school.



## STUDENT SUCCESSES

## Principal's List for Effort and Achievement

S/No	Name	Year	Academic House
1	Singh, Gurnihal	1	Cheong Koon Seng
2	He, Yajing	2	Cheong Koon Seng
3	Koh, Hannah Kai-Xin (Hannah)	3	Cheong Koon Seng
4	Hearn, Ashleigh Catherine Long Yee	1	Goh Hood Keng
5	Tjahjowidodo, Daning Dyah Savitri (Daning)	1	Goh Hood Keng
6	Khoo, Jaelle Jia Yi (Jaelle)	2	Goh Hood Keng
7	Tjahjowidodo, Indah Wahyu Hapsari (Indah)	2	Goh Hood Keng
8	Darmawan, Sarah	3	Goh Hood Keng
9	Ho, Li Yi Jamie (Jamie)	3	Goh Hood Keng
10	Uppal, Dhruv	5	Goh Hood Keng
11	Zhu, Mengqi (Alice)	5	Goh Hood Keng
12	Cheng, Justin Ming Hearn (Justin)	1	Lee Seng Gee
13	Hsu, Wei-Yun (Vicky)	1	Lee Seng Gee
14	Lee, Jaeyun (Jennifer)	1	Lee Seng Gee
15	Wong, Yu Wen	5	Lee Seng Gee
16	Lee, Hyojun	3	Oldham
17	Chen, Yili	2	Shaw Vee Meng
18	Jia, Yangyijia (Christina)	3	Shaw Vee Meng
19	Park, Ju-Hyun (Julie)	3	Shaw Vee Meng
20	Chung, Nicole Mae Sze (Nicole)	2	Tan Chin Tuan
21	Tan, Ruiyi	2	Tan Chin Tuan
22	Tan, Liyi	3	Tan Chin Tuan
23	Leong, Evangeline Li En (Evangeline)	5	Tan Chin Tuan
24	Kastono Ahadi, Abigail	1	Tan Kah Kee
25	Van Selm, Caitlin Susanna (Caitlin)	1	Tan Kah Kee
26	Ravichandran, Aarthy Narainy (Aarthy)	2	Tan Kah Kee
27	Van Selm, Jasper Melchior (Jasper)	3	Tan Kah Kee
28	Jonathan, Christian Steven	5	Tan Kah Kee
29	Lahiry, Ayushi	2	Thoburn
30	Oh, Jae Bom	2	Thoburn
31	Selvakumar, Tejaswini	2	Thoburn
32	Wang, Huey Wei Timothy Obi (Timothy)	5	Thoburn

## Distinction for Effort and Achievement

S/No	Name	Year	Academic House
1	Kerdkaewfah, Prapatsorn (Mimie)	1	Cheong Koon Seng
2	Loke, E-Shyen Tessa (Tessa)	2	Cheong Koon Seng
3	Tan, Jia Ying Nicole (Nicolle)	2	Cheong Koon Seng
4	Goel, Vansh Romesh (Vansh)	2	Cheong Koon Seng
5	Kerdkaewfah, Papawarin (Gigie)	3	Cheong Koon Seng
6	Lee, Hyun Ju (Julianne)	5	Cheong Koon Seng
7	Buxani, Rohan Kishore (Rohan)	1	Goh Hood Keng
8	Ng, Tawan Wei Ming (Wei Ming)	1	Goh Hood Keng
9	Widjaja, Jeslyn	1	Goh Hood Keng
10	Cai, Linshan (Lance)	2	Goh Hood Keng
11	Que, Linxiao	3	Goh Hood Keng
12	Ramasamy, Gautam	3	Goh Hood Keng
13	Lien, Tian-Yi Charity (Charity)	1	Lee Seng Gee
14	Yu, Chen Ning (Emily)	1	Lee Seng Gee
15	Chitranapawong, Kaan	2	Lee Seng Gee
16	Chng, Shi Ern Caitlin (Caitlin)	2	Lee Seng Gee
17	Ho, Judith Ann Han Lin (Judith)	2	Lee Seng Gee
18	Wu, Di	3	Lee Seng Gee
19	Low, Wen Ting Megan (Megan)	4	Lee Seng Gee
20	Tam, Hao Yang (Cyrus)	5	Lee Seng Gee

## Distinction for Effort and Achievement

21	Wang, Yuhan (Elizabeth)	3	Oldham
22	Ge, Yun	4	Oldham
23	Darmawan, Sophie	4	Oldham
24	Guo, Shiyu (Jennifer)	5	Oldham
25	Matani, Neha Nikhil (Neha)	5	Oldham
26	Gouw, Bei Ni Nicole (Nicole)	1	Shaw Vee Meng
27	Ng, Yeun Ning	1	Shaw Vee Meng
28	Oh, Lenard Tzo Jue (Lenard)	1	Shaw Vee Meng
29	Ng, Noah Yi En (Noah)	2	Shaw Vee Meng
30	Li, Yi (Alisa)	3	Shaw Vee Meng
31	Wang, Lu Ying	3	Shaw Vee Meng
32	Augustin, Juanita Prince (Juanita)	5	Shaw Vee Meng
33	Mao, John Zhi Xiang (John)	2	Tan Chin Tuan
34	Onda, Renardo	2	Tan Chin Tuan
35	Choi, Madeline Yu-Jin	2	Tan Chin Tuan
36	Sim, Tera	2	Tan Chin Tuan
37	Chia, Lorraine Hui Xuan (Lorraine)	3	Tan Chin Tuan
38	Joung, Jaewon (Kalista)	3	Tan Chin Tuan
39	Sudharsan, Anjana	3	Tan Chin Tuan
40	Ye, Weiyang (Vivian)	4	Tan Chin Tuan
41	Tan, Weng Tong (Tiffany)	4	Tan Chin Tuan
42	Kacha, Rathin Kishor (Rathin)	5	Tan Chin Tuan
43	Lee, Kelly	5	Tan Chin Tuan
44	Liu, Jake Yhin Hern (Jake)	1	Tan Kah Kee
45	Ren, Yiting (Emily)	2	Tan Kah Kee
46	Nguyen, Khanh Trung (Thomas)	2	Tan Kah Kee
47	Chesney, Cheyenne Helen (Cheyenne)	3	Tan Kah Kee
48	Indrawanputri, Fransisca	3	Tan Kah Kee
49	Qian, Jiayi	3	Tan Kah Kee
50	Chen, Siye	5	Tan Kah Kee
51	Chen, Yuxuan	5	Tan Kah Kee
52	Tan, Jek Min Christabelle (Christabelle)	5	Tan Kah Kee
53	Yang, Xiyan	5	Tan Kah Kee
54	te Mohd Sadique, Nasha Amiesha Marican (Nasha)	1	Thoburn
55	Cheng, Xirui	1	Thoburn
56	Waluja, Devlin Nathan (Devlin)	2	Thoburn
57	Xiong, Jianan (Jessica)	2	Thoburn
58	Thirasawasd, Arin (Uk)	3	Thoburn
59	Zhang, Ruiyang	3	Thoburn
60	Hu, Yuwei (Kelly)	4	Thoburn
61	Pan, Yulin (Leo)	4	Thoburn
62	Peck, Hui Wen Celyna (Celyna)	5	Thoburn
63	Wang, Tianwen	5	Thoburn



## On the way to Broadway



Arnell Nur Karina (6THO) has been chosen as a First Place winner in the Broadway/Musical Theatre category of the American Protégé International Vocal Competition 2016. She will be performing at The Winner's Recital at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York.

Arnell was also the lead actress in our 2013 school musical *West Side Story* (pictured), and is a current member of the school's Acapella CCA.

We are incredibly proud of Arnell's hard work and of her achievements, and congratulate her on this exciting success.

## International Competitions and Assessment

On 19 April, 160 of our Year 3 students took the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) in Science. ICAS is a highly regarded assessment program that is organised by the University of New South Wales for schools. ICAS assesses students in computer skills, English, Mathematics, Science, and writing, which enables schools to identify students' levels of academic performance. The science assessment in particular includes questions that are classified accordingly under the scientific skills of: predicting / concluding, investigating, reasoning / problem solving, interpreting, and observing / measuring.

We are pleased to announce that Kim Min Jun (3 LSG) has obtained a certificate of Distinction. 14 Credits and 11 Merits have also been awarded. We would like to thank all parents, guardians, the staff and management of ACS (International), and anyone else who has helped or contributed to the success of ICAS – Science.

## Alumni Update

Congratulations to alumnus and current Cambridge University student Ho Ren Chun. We were notified that Ren Chun achieved a first class result in this year's examinations, and was made a Scholar of his College in recognition of his hard work. In addition, he has been awarded a College Prize and a Davidson Scholarship. Ren Chun is currently studying Human, Social, and Political Sciences at St John's College.

To learn more about the academic awards at St John's College, visit <http://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/academic-awards>.

## Singapore International Math Olympiad Challenge Championship

Cheng Ming Hearn (1 LSG) took part in the Singapore International Math Olympiad Challenge and he won the overall championship in the Secondary 1 category.

He received the Bronze award for the team Mind Sports Challenge (Middle Division), the Gold award for the Grade 7 Math Olympiad Contest and the Gold award for the team Math Warriors Competition (Middle Division), all of which helped him clinch the Grade 7 Overall Champion trophy. Justin has previously competed in the Singapore and Asian Schools Math Olympiad (SASMO) earlier in the year, and won a Bronze award. In addition, he was also the Bronze winner for Singapore Mathematical Olympiad 2016 in the Junior category.

See more details here <http://simoc.sg/results/>.

Congratulations to Justin on his hard work and success.



## Team Singapore for Golf

Ryan Wong (5OLD) has been selected to be a part of Team Singapore participating in the Southeast Asian Amateur Golf Team Championship 2016. This prestigious tournament will be held from 5 – 9 September in Singapore. Ryan will be part of a 3-person team competing for the Lion City Cup. We wish him and the team all the best in their training and for the tournament ahead.

## Schooling and our Students



*Charity Lien and Kai Ang with Joseph Schooling*

Schooling fever has reached a peak in Singapore! When Joseph Schooling visited his alma mater ACS (Junior), our swimmers Charity Lien and Kai Ang got to meet him too. It was a brief encounter, but was certainly memorable. We hope that Charity and Kai continue to work hard both in their studies and their swimming – inspired by Singapore's very own swimming champion!

## Ambassadors' World Vision Fundraising Campaign against Hunger

The Student Ambassadors are pleased to announce that a total of \$17,443.00 has been raised through the combined efforts of students, staff, and parents. To date, The Student Ambassadors have held various fundraising events during this campaign, which ended with the Choice to Run event. We would like to thank everyone involved for their generous support for the children in Tien Lu Vietnam.

## Willing Hearts



On 14 August, Mr Rajan and a group of seven House Prefects (Cheong Koon Seng House) traded the chance of sleeping in for the chance to do good. They spent their morning volunteering with the Willing Hearts organisation from 5.30am, packing food which they then delivered to the elderly and inform in the HDB estates in the Chin Swee Road area. Looking at their faces, you can tell that waking up early on a Sunday was definitely worth it.



## Strings Concert



On 19 August 2016, our school's String Orchestra and GuZheng Ensemble collaborated to produce the Strings Concert 2016. The GuZheng Ensemble wowed parents and students alike with delightful pieces such as *Butterfly* and *Fisherman's Song at Dusk*. The String Orchestra followed with western pieces: Vivaldi's double violin concerto, Pizzicato Polka, and highly popular tunes including the Star Wars Theme and Yiruma's *River Flows in You*. Lastly, the two orchestras combined together with flutist Alexandria Halim to perform the final songs: *Chrysanthemum Terrace* and *Dance of the Yao*.

While the performance only lasted for two hours, the two ensembles invested many hours into training and preparing for this performance. They rehearsed over and over again till late in the evening in order to produce a cohesive performance. Preparation was not easy, as students faced the challenge of honing their craft and fulfilling school commitments at the same time. The long school days with tests and assignments followed by setbacks were particularly tough. However, with the nurturing guidance and leadership of the Strings conductor Mr Lim Soon Lee, and support from teachers-in-charge Ms Carol Ling, Mdm Josephine Teo, Mdm Cheng Wei, Mdm Chen Yongzhen and Ms Yang Yang, they pulled through to create wonderful and mesmerizing melodies. As they finished the last piece, *Dance of the Yao*, the audience burst into applause, many rising to their feet in their moment of jubilee and delight. For the instrumentalists, their pain from all the challenges all but vanished under the blinding stage lights and the applause, their eyes filling with warm tears, and their hearts swelled with an incredible sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.



For me, it has been a rather incredible journey. As the President of the Strings Orchestra, I felt immense pressure on my back, trying to organize the orchestra coupled with working with the teachers-in-charge and our conductor Mr Lim on top of practising my instrument of choice: the violin. While the journey sure was tough, the rewards were far sweeter than I could have ever hoped for, the sense of accomplishment and jubilee sweeping over me like a tsunami as the concert came to a close. Through this journey, I have fostered a deeper bond with many of the string orchestra members and have made many friends along the way. This experience has been truly meaningful and priceless for me, and I hope that we may experience similar experiences in the future through various concerts and performances, allowing our budding orchestra to develop into a fully-fledged and talented orchestra, capable of performing at a higher level together.

*Michael Tan (5 OLD),  
President of the String Orchestra*

Two pieces from this combined performance may be viewed at the following links on YouTube, with credits to Wang Chenwei, who arranged the music for these pieces.

《瑶族舞曲》 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EM1EKgiv7w>

《菊花台》 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxZrhre12TQ>



## Concert in the Dark

On 13 August, the Holland Village Methodist Church sponsored 20 tickets for a music concert at the Star Performing Arts Centre for the international students in our school. The group included students from the Youth Alpha course (An organization aimed at students to help them learn more about Christianity). The concert was in darkness throughout, and the aim of this was to allow participants to experience the feeling of being visually impaired. There were several well-known artists performing, including Nathan Hartono, an alumnus from our ACS family. The concert ran from 7 to 9 pm, and the music was overwhelmingly good.



Before we entered the concert hall, we had to divide ourselves into groups of 8 and gather in a small dark room. Then we were told to put our hands onto the shoulders of the person in front. As the breeze from the air-conditioner blew on us, we started moving forward into complete darkness, led by our visually-impaired guides. The excitement we felt as we walked was incredible. As we found our seats, the music started to play. All of the artists were unbelievably talented; they only made minimal mistakes despite playing in complete darkness. Towards the end of the concert, the lights were turned on. As our eyes adjusted to the brightness, the figures of the artists slowly emerged, reassuring us that the concert was actually real. This experience was new to all of us, and we enjoyed every moment spent in the darkness.

*By Leo Yang*

Concert in the Dark is an event that is run by Dialogue in the Dark, an organization that is aimed at increasing awareness of the visually impaired amongst us, so as to facilitate the inclusion of marginalized people into our communities.



## IB Higher Level Drama

On 19 August, the IB HL theatre students performed their solo theatre piece as a part of their course requirement. There were nine solo pieces and the work of seven theatre theorists were explored in each of the pieces.



Each HL students started with the work of a theatre theorist to create their solo pieces. From there, they explored the possibilities as to how their story could be presented on stage. The students were strongly supported by friends and family who attended their performance. Our students worked really hard to come up with their final pieces, resulting in a memorable and enjoyable evening for everyone who attended.



For more snippets of the life of an IB Theatre student in ACS International, please visit:  
[https://llamasintodrama.wordpress.com/.](https://llamasintodrama.wordpress.com/)

*Miss Sia Eemien*





## Alumni BBQ

Every year, the Alumni Reunion Committee holds an alumni event. This year's event was a barbeque held on Friday 19 August at the school's new student centre. A total of 58 alumni were in attendance, spanning 5 different cohorts – this was the highest turnout of any alumni reunion so far, excluding the 10th Anniversary celebrations last year. Along with the barbeque, there was a lucky draw which featured generous prizes, including a Samsung smart TV, and Beats by Dre headphones. Not only that, an alumni group spontaneously came forward to perform a well-received musical number. We really enjoyed being back in school, as it gave us a chance to reminisce and see how the school has changed and grown. Each successive reunion event has managed to create awareness of the Alumni Reunion Committee, and we hope that more alumni will continue to attend future events.

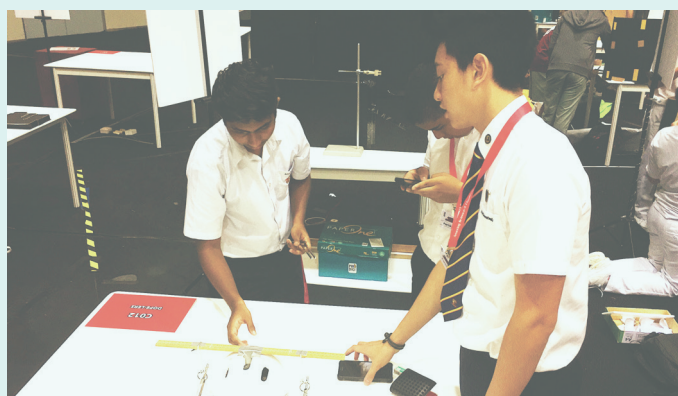
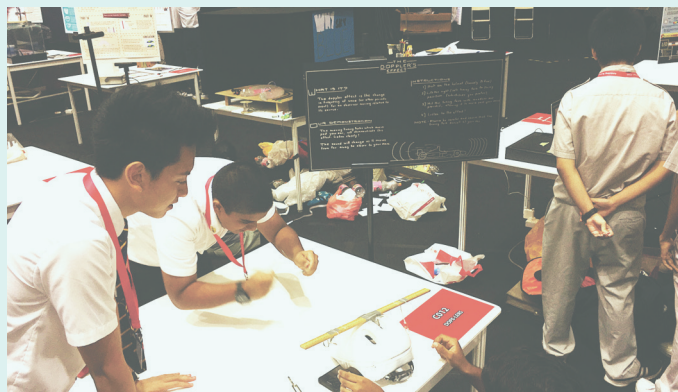
We would like to thank the school, staff, and teachers for accommodating us, and for their help. Thanks go also to Mr Yogi Tewani for his continued support of the Alumni Reunion Committee and the alumni. He has also previously provided generous support for various other school events, such as Teachers' Day. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the Parent School Partners, and parents of alumni for their involvement and support.

*Cephas Tan (Alumni)*



## Amazing Science Challenge

This year, ACS (International) sent 3 teams to participate in the Amazing Science X-Challenge (ASXC) held at the Science Centre, in partnership with NUS and DSO.



One of the teams that consisted of three Year 5 students (Akkshaj Singh 5-GHK, Rishi Nandiraju Bharadwaj 5GHK & Purinat Atipas 5OLD) had this to share:

*"We were required to construct an exhibit demonstrating a natural science phenomena. We were inspired by the F1, and decided to demonstrate the Doppler Effect. We used a helmet, attached to two tuning forks which swing past the wearer's ears, demonstrating the effect. We also created a poster explaining the effect, and were required to log our progress and creative processes with a logbook.*

*Our original design was much more complex, involving pipes and curtain rails, and a sound source moving past the observer, but eventually simplified to what it became.*

*Although we didn't win, this experience helped us discover more about the sciences, (something we were already deeply interested in) and also helped develop our creativity. On the whole, it was an engaging, interesting and enriching experience for all of us."*

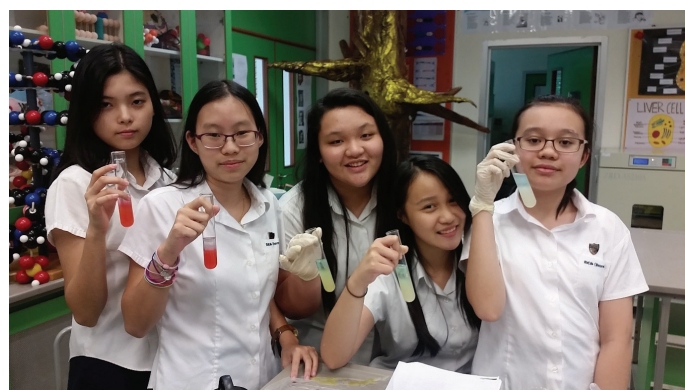
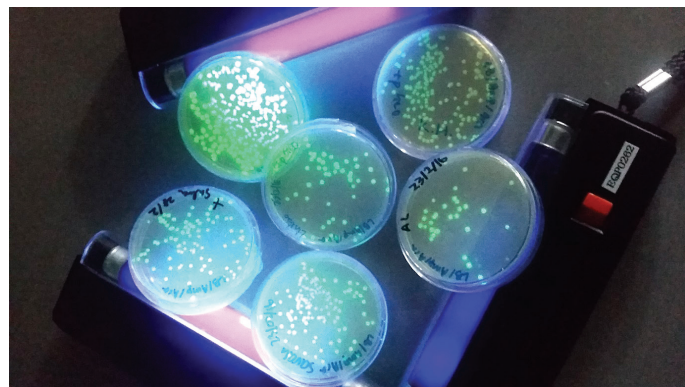
With this added experience and a heightened sense of adventure, we will definitely be having a go at the competition again in 2017!

Mr Kent Kor  
Teacher of Physics

## Science at ACS (International)

Here is what some of our students have been up to this term:

Students successfully produced glowing *Escherichia Coli* bacteria by means of bacterial transformation. The glow is produced by green fluorescent proteins from the jellyfish *Aequorea Victoria*.



Our students learned how to do DNA extraction using strawberries, kiwis and grapes.



Our students attended the STAR Lecture talk on "How to survive in Space" by Dr Kevin Fong.



## Farm Tour

On 27 August, a group of international students went on a farm tour in Singapore. Accompanied by two volunteers from Holland Village Methodist Church and International Students' Pastoral Coordinator Ms Stacey, we visited Qian Hu fish farm and Jurong frog farm, followed by lunch at Bollywood veggies. We ended the day with a tour of the SPCA. The tour was organized by the student committee of international students and it provided an opportunity for bonding among the students as well.

Our first stop was Qian Hu fish farm, which is at Jalan Lekar. Not only did we see many species of ornamental fishes, we also had the chance to experience the fish spa! For many of us, it was an interesting new ticklish experience that we were glad we had the chance to have. The fish spa is supposed to promote body-fluid circulation, and the exfoliation of dead skin from our feet. All of us had fun being nibbled on by those little fish while chatting with each other.

Jurong Frog Farm was not a disappointment either. We learned a lot more about frogs, including the way to distinguish their genders, and their jumping abilities. We even got to hold the frogs in our hands, which some of us gamely did. Our close encounter with amphibians was something we would not forget for a long time!

Our last stop was the SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). At the SPCA, we saw dogs, cats and other small animals waiting to be adopted. We were very sad to see them being kept in cages and reflected on what we ourselves could do to prevent this from happening.



Although this event was only a short and quick tour lasting only 4 hours inclusive of wonderful farm food for lunch, we all learnt a lot in a fun and relaxing environment. We really appreciated this opportunity to see the 'other side' of Singapore and we are already looking forward to the upcoming events of the next few months!

*Kwun Jun Hyung (5 TCT) and Chen Wan-Yu (5 SVM)*

## Rock Climbing CCA

9 of our students represented the school for Bouldermania 2016, an annual rock-climbing event organised by Nanyang Technological University.



Our students participated in the team category, and won the Platinum award. They won both the Bronze and Silver awards in the individuals category. These awards are a considerable accomplishment, as many of our students are rock-climbing or bouldering for the first time.

## ACS (International) Sports Tournament

On Saturday 27 August 2016, we hosted the annual ACS (International) sports tournament in preparation for ACSIS Season 1 including; U19 girls football, U14 girls touch rugby, U14 boys rugby and U19 girls and boys volleyball. All of the tournaments were very well attended by other international schools and it was a very enjoyable morning for all. The U19 girls football came 3rd overall winning two games very convincingly.

The U14 touch rugby team had a very exciting 3rd/4th playoff resulting in a drop off and just missed out to UWC East. Both volleyball teams also played extremely well, the girls finishing in 3rd place and the boys winning the silver medal in their competition. The U14 rugby boys fought very hard in all of their games and narrowly missed out on 2nd place. It was a very successful morning for all of our teams and we look forward to the start of Season 1.

*Mr Mike Patterson*



## The Darren Loh Cup IV

It has been 4 years since its inception, and the Darren Loh Cup (DLC) has become an established annual event at ACS (International). It is held in association with the Singapore Heart Foundation, and is an event where teachers, students, and alumni gather to compete against each other in football, whilst raising money and awareness of heart ailments amongst youth.



On Saturday 20 Aug 2016 the weather was extremely hot, but that did not stop the progress of another successful tournament. There was also a lucky draw (sponsored by Beats by Dr Dre), and a photo booth staffed by Star Wars costume enthusiasts from the Cathar Outpost Rebel Legion to add to the excitement of the day.

We would like to thank Mr David Loh and Mrs Angela Loh for their continued support of this event, as well as our current and new sponsors, including Golden Village, Beats by Dr Dre, Rockstone Music Chamber, Red Dynasty Paintball Park, Mr Brian Kwan, Mr Tan Shu Ping, our ever supportive Parent School Partner group, and all participants and volunteers.



We hope to see everyone again at next year's DLC VI!

Mr Rajan

### Results for the DLC:

<b>U19</b>	<b>JSSL 4 vs IMK FC 2</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>Nooice 0 vs Daddy's FC 0 (penalty shootout Nooice won 3-2)</b>
<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Teachers 1 vs SOP 0</b>

### Individual Awards:

<b>U19 Best Goalkeeper</b>	<b>IMK FC's Ng Ze Weng (6CKS)</b>
<b>U19 Top Scorer</b>	<b>IMK FC's Yash Dhar (6TKK)</b>
<b>U19 Best Player</b>	<b>IMK FC's Yash Dhar (6TKK)</b>
<b>Open Best Goalkeeper</b>	<b>Nooice's Gu Gan</b>
<b>Open Top Scorer</b>	<b>2G1C's Jason Kaharuddin (Class of 2014) Daddy's FC's Jab Yongsanguanchai (4CKS)</b>
<b>Open Best Player</b>	<b>Daddy's FC's Ryan Lee (4THO)</b>
<b>Mixed Best Goalkeeper</b>	<b>Teachers' Mohd Andika (guest player)</b>
<b>Mixed Top Scorer</b>	<b>Teachers' Ms Gemma Adderley Victorious Secret's Kim Young Hown (6THO) SOP's Kwun Jun Hyung (5TCT)</b>
<b>Mixed Best Player</b>	<b>Teachers' Ms Gemma Adderley</b>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER	EVENT
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Term 4 begins</li> </ul>
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSP Executive Meeting</li> <li>• IGCSE Languages Oral Examination</li> </ul>
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGCSE Languages Oral Examination</li> </ul>
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 6 Final CAS Interviews to be completed by Tutors</li> </ul>
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGCSE Art Examination</li> <li>• O Level Chinese B Oral Examination</li> </ul>
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGCSE Art Examination</li> <li>• Year 5 Principal's Dialogue</li> </ul>
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 6 CAS Portfolios to be completed</li> <li>• IB Visual Arts Exhibition Open at 5:00pm (Art Rooms)</li> </ul>

OCTOBER	EVENT
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House Lunches</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Year 4 Assembly and lunch</li> <li>• Study Leave starts at 3:00pm</li> </ul>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 3+4 IGCSE PE Moderation</li> </ul>

Back to  
Contents  
Page