

ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Disruptors, New Normal, New Wine in New Wine Skins

In the business world, a disruptor is usually an entrepreneur or outsider or creative thinker who creates a product, service, or way of doing things which displaces the existing market leaders and eventually replaces them at the helm of the sector (www.businessleader.co.uk). Disruptors think outside the box and take advantage of pressure points and stressors to produce new products and new solutions. Disruptors take advantage of disruption. The changes and innovations which result from disruption are often rapid and take place in times of turbulence.

COVID-19 has been a disruption and has produced much turbulence, and already there are new and accepted ways of doing business and interacting with each other which were just abstract ideas 12 months ago. "New normal" is now one of the most used phrases in our vocabulary. Most of us have adapted remarkably well to new ways, and no doubt there are more adaptations to come. These adaptations would also relate to social interactions and our fast-changing society. Disruptors, or radicals, will lead the way in creating new and accepted ways of doing things which better meet the needs of society.

Jesus was a disruptor and radical who was the author of amazing religious and social change during a time of ferment in Israel. Another disruptor was John Wesley, the father of Methodism and the leader of the reformation of the church in England. As Bishop Dr Chong Chin Chung wrote in the recent *Methodist Message*: "John Wesley realised the need for breakthroughs in the traditional and conservative methods of church shepherding, and that 'new wine must be put into new wineskins' (see Matthew 9: 14 – 17). Wesley's life is 'a story of adapting structures to serve the burgeoning revival movement.' His changes were radical at the time but are now considered very mainstream."

We encourage the disruptors in our school community to embrace innovation, be it local, regional or global, to create better living conditions, better ways of interacting, and greater tolerance and acceptance of differences. New wine needs new wineskins. On a smaller scale, at school we too are looking at how to adapt and better meet the needs of our students in the coming months and years. Please continue to pray for us as we prepare for 2021.

This is the second-to-last newsletter of the year. The last will be published at the end of term in two weeks' time and among other items it will contain name of prize winners, important dates for next year, an acknowledgement of leaving staff and other general information. Our Year 4 and 6 students are currently sitting their external IGCSE and IBDP examinations respectively. We continue to wish them well in their endeavours. The rest of the school has now completed their end-of-year internal examinations with teachers currently returning scripts, and giving follow-up lessons.

This year's Year 6 Graduation and whole-school Speech Day prize-giving ceremonies will be held in the Oldham Chapel but unfortunately due to COVID-19 and the mandatory compliance of the safe management measures, we are not able to invite parents, nor the wider staff. The ceremonies will be live streamed on Facebook though which will enable parents and other supporters the chance to share in the celebrations. See elsewhere in this newsletter for further details.

Our best wishes to all.

Rob Burrough
Principal

Staff News

Green Fingers at Work

Term 4 Key Dates

Examination Matters

2020 Study Nights

Sitorus Library Returns

End-of-Year Activity Days: 11 & 12 November

End-of-Year House Activity Day: 13 November

Graduation Matters

ACS (International) Speech Day 2020

Books and Uniform Matters

International Student Insurance

Year 6 IB Results Release: An Update

Start of 2021 Arrangements

Lunar New Year 2021

Year Groups to Take PEAKS Assessment in 2021

Blazer Donations

Clearing Lockers

ACS Echo

Safe Distancing Observance in Holland Village

Stay Home If Unwell

Writing to the School

Singapore Mathematical Olympiad 2020

Year 2 Student Achieves Bronze NYAA

Pena Emas Essay Competition

2020 IB Visual Arts Exhibition

Exhibition "Conflict" by Foundation IB Students

Project Clean Hands

Mid-Autum Festival Celebration

A Mini-Recital by Year 3 Music Students

Higher Education News

PSP News

Upcoming Events

STAFF NEWS

Music Teacher Shares Practices and Pedagogies

The Ministry of Education's Singapore Teachers' Academy for the Arts (STAR) featured our music teacher, Mr Philip Tan, in three videos on the MOE music teacher network, Musicators!, illuminating artistic practices and pedagogy of electronic music teaching. Musicators! is a closed Facebook group with more than 930 members that offers music teachers a platform to share resources, discuss teaching experiences, and provide professional support for one another.

These videos are additional resources for primary up to 'A' Level teachers who are teaching Music NT, 'O' and 'A' Level syllabuses. The videos feature authentic artistic processes harnessing technology, with the aims to challenge the users in thinking how music compositions can be approached, to learn creative music-making strategies with technology and to encourage innovations in pedagogical approaches towards Electronic Music Composition.

Mr Tan was also invited to conduct sessions in September and October for MOE teachers as part of their ICT professional development. The workshops were very well-received by the participants. He provided critique and expanded their electronic music compositions, and discussed the pedagogical suggestions that teachers could consider for their lessons. Mr Tan demystified the creative and teaching Electronic music processes which have helped teachers understand the use of possible techniques in electronic music compositions for the context of classroom and industry music practices.

Dr Chua Siew Ling, the organiser of the videos and workshops, commented that Mr Tan's contributions have made a positive impact in opening minds and giving insights into the creative processes. The participants left the workshops with rich reflections, and appreciated how they could express themselves creatively.



Green Fingers at Work

On 16 October, we were delighted to hold our very first workshop event at Green Roof. Joined by 20 staff and one parent who were enthusiastic to develop their green fingers, the workshop was kicked off by Mr Burrough's speech which shared our hope for the space to develop into a green hub that supports a wide range of projects.

Ms Joanne Phang, National Parks Board, introduced the various plants and leaves to us followed by the steps to germinate seeds and propagate plants. When it was time to get off their seats, our colleagues simply couldn't wait to get their hands soiled. Whenever possible, Ms Phang would take questions about gardening and generously shared with us her knowledge on how to keep plants healthy. The workshop ended with us putting Sisso Spinach and Indian Borage into the garden's planter, to grow strong and healthily. It is our hope that many more such occasions will be held on this space.

Green Roof is equipped with self-watering planters and open for the school community's gardening projects. For any enquiry, please email to lengleng.koh@acsinternational.edu.sg

*Mrs Ivy Teo, Mdm Koh Leng Khim and Mdm Koh Leng Leng
Green Roof Committee*



NOTICES

Term 4 Key Dates

Please note the following key dates for Term 4:

2–16 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal school days
11-12 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End-of-Year Activity Days
13 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final IBDP examination • End-of-Year House Activity Day
14 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deepavali Public Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)
15 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Graduation Ceremony (for Graduands and SLT/HsMs/ HoFs)
17 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term 4 End-of-Year Academic Report issued • Last day for Non-Prize winners, 1/2 day for most students • Speech Day rehearsal (for Prize Winners)
18 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech Day (for Prize Winners and Teachers only)
19–20 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Only days

Examinations Matters

IB and IGCSE Examination Schedules and Term 4 End-of-Year Academic Report

The schedule of the 2020 IB and IGCSE Examinations can be found at <https://acs.fireflycloud.asia/information-for-parents-public> with no login required by parents or students. Other information such as the IGCSE and IBDP programmes, assessment criteria, academic reports, parent portal (iSAMS) and schools buddy portal can be accessed from the same link. The Term 4 End-of-Year Academic Report will be available online from 12noon, Tuesday, 17 November.

Formal External Examinations

Year 4 and Year 6 subject teachers will be available for consultation with students during their regular subject timetabled times, and at other times by arrangement.

Student Dress Code

All students must wear the full and correct school uniform **during the formal external/end-of-year examinations**. Years 4 and 6 students must wear full school uniform or school-related shirts, such as the polo tee and House T-shirts, with the school pants/culottes **when visiting school** for support lesson or consultation with teachers **including staying for Study Nights**. PE shorts are not allowed. Students in the wrong attire will NOT be allowed entry into the school/library.

2020 Study Nights

The school library is extending the opening hours from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 29 September to 12 November for Years 4 and 6 to do self study. A HoF/Assistant HoF will be supervising the study nights, and they are available for subject consultation while on duty.

PSP is sponsoring snacks and dinner for those in attendance. For those who would like to receive dinner from PSP, please sign up for it at the library counter before 1:00pm on the same day.

Date	Teacher
Tuesday 10 November	Mdm Koh Leng Leng (Assistant HoF/Languages)
Thursday 12 November	Mr Mike Patterson (HoF/PE)

Sitorus Library Returns

Years 1, 2, 3, 5 and Bridging Students

Please return all books by or before the DUE date stamped on the slip of paper issued with the Library book. Students can borrow books for the holidays after settling the outstanding fines.

Years 4 and 6 Students

Please note that the last day to return any borrowed item(s) and pay outstanding fines is Friday, 6 November.

All Students

Unpaid fines/cost of the lost item(s) will be deducted from the Deposit.

End-of-Year Activity Days: 11 & 12 November

Following the end-of-year examinations for students in Years 1 to 3, Foundation IB and Pre IB, there is usually a time for activity, relationship-building and learning beyond the curriculum; a large part of which had been fulfilled by end-of-year camps in previous years. With overseas travel and domestic activity restrictions in place this year, students will instead have a chance to take part in collaborative, interactive and competitive experiences in school, whilst extending their learning from both the pastoral programme and subject specific curricula, through the End-of-Year Activity Days on Wednesday, 11 November, and Thursday, 12 November.

Working with their House tutor group, students will be involved in a variety of challenges across a selection of faculty areas related to the *UN Global Goals*, which provide a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. House tutor groups within the same year group will compete against one another to complete the challenges, with an overall winning House tutor group to be crowned and prizes to be awarded to each year group.

Students will be required to be in school from 8:00am to 3:00pm on both days, yet normal lesson timings will be different. The timetable of activities will be shared with students by their House tutor. Students can wear their PE uniform on the day they have PE lesson and their House T-shirt with regular pants/culottes on the other day.

End-of-Year House Activity Day: 13 November

Following the End-of-Year Activity Days, students in Years 1 to 3, Foundation IB and Pre IB will be engaged in the End-of-Year House Activity Day. Students can wear their regular uniform or House T-shirt with regular pants/culottes. On this day, students will participate in regular chapel, receive the results of the previous days' competitions, watch and vote in the Barrett Music competition and watch the Inter-House Music competition videos, along with activities within their House. Students will be dismissed at 12:15pm.

Graduation Matters

Graduation Ceremony

This year's IB Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2020 will be held on Sunday, 15 November. In line with the mandatory safe management measures against the COVID-19 pandemic, graduates will be celebrating the event in Oldham Chapel at 3pm. Parents, family and friends are cordially invited to witness the ceremony through livestream via Zoom or the ACS (International) Facebook page by using the link(s) or QR Code, from 3pm onwards. See poster on page 18.

Formal Attire for Sale

The IB Graduation Ceremony is a very special and formal occasion to celebrate and mark the end of the two-year diploma programme. Students are expected to look smart in the formal attire for the event.

Bibi and Baba Pte Ltd have **48 white skirts** of various sizes and **20 white pants** (see below) available. Students who need a replacement can purchase the items at **reduced prices**. To help reduce student down time in having to go to the shop in town to purchase, the school is holding the stocks. Please see Ms Helen Koo at the General Office to make the purchase.

White Skirts

Original price: \$39.00/pc + GST = S\$41.70/pc

Price less 20%: \$31.00/pc + GST = S\$33.20/pc

Item/Size	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	Total
White Pleated Skirt stock	0	0	5	11	8	12	12	48

White Pants

Original price: \$25.00/pc + GST = S\$26.80/pc

Price less 10%: \$22.50/pc + GST = S\$24.10/pc

Item/Size	25	26	27	28	29	30	32	34	36	38	40	Total
White Long Pants stock	6	1	6	0	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	20

ACS (International) Speech Day 2020

Speech Day 2020 will be held on Wednesday, 18 November, in Oldham Chapel, 9:00am to 10:15am, for prize winners only, with school leaders in attendance. Parents, family and friends are cordially invited to witness the ceremony through livestream via Zoom or the ACS (International) Facebook page by using the link(s) below, from 9:00am onwards.

Zoom: <https://acsinternational-edu-sg.zoom.us/j/88075848272>
Meeting ID: 880 7584 8272

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ACSInternationalSingapore>

Books and Uniform Matters

Students are to take note of the information as follows:

Booklist

The 2021 booklist for each year group is available on the website. ([Life At ACS/Forms & Important Information/](#))

Books (Popular Bookstore)

Date 14–30 December, 4–6 January 2021

Venue School Bookshop

Business Hours Mondays to Fridays 9am–4pm

Note Closed on 24 and 31 December, Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays

Uniform (Bibi&Baba Pte Ltd)

Date 4, 6, and 15 January 2021

Venue Outside School Bookshop [TBC]

Business Hours 10am–4pm

Note The shop at Far East Shopping Centre will be closed from 12 to 14 February 2021 for Lunar New Year break. Business resumes on 15 February.

Formal Wear

The attire has to be worn on Founder's Day, Monday, 1 March 2021. The last day to place your order is 15 January 2021. For more details, contact with Sandy/Pauline at 6271 9248.

International Student Insurance

It is compulsory for international students (on Student Pass) to purchase the school's required insurance. The school will continue to engage the services of Honan Insurance in 2021. The payment for the insurance (SGD\$300) will be billed to the international student's 2021 school fees payment. Students with non-Honan insurance policy are advised not to renew their existing policy if it is expiring, as each international student is required to purchase a local insurance policy as required by the school.

Year 6 IB Results Release: An Update

The results of the November IB Diploma examinations will now be released online to students at 2:00pm, Sunday, 3 January 2021. Year 5 anticipated results will also be released online at the same time. (This is a change to the timeline previously advised by the IBO and printed in the October newsletter.)

A hardcopy of the student's result slip will be released in the Library on Monday, 4 January 2021, at 3:30pm. The school will share the cohort's statistics and top performers; plus be available for counselling/queries, etc. Thereafter, students may wish to collect it from the General Office from 9:00am to 5:00pm on weekdays.

Start of 2021 Arrangements

Year 5 IBDP

The start date for our own Year 5 students who qualified for entry via DSA (based on their Year 4 preliminary examination results at the end of Term 3 in 2020) and 2020 Pre IB and Foundation IB students who qualified, will be Thursday, 7 January 2021. New students from the 'O' Level track and our own students who did not qualify for entry via DSA will start as soon as they have been approved for entry. These students will be given some catch-up time. The advantage of this earlier start is that students will have extra lessons to help mitigate the very large IBDP workload.

First Weeks

Monday, 4 January	
All Day	• Staff Training
11:00am	• New Students Welcome by the Principal followed by lunch with new students and parents
1:00pm	• IPC briefing for new international students
1:00pm–5:00pm	• Student subject consultations and changes with Divisional Coordinators; purchase uniform from Bibi & Baba and textbooks from Popular Bookshop (both onsite)
3:30pm	• IBDP results released at the Library

Tuesday, 5 January	
All Day	• Staff Training & Preparation
All Day	• New Students Orientation I (excluding Year 5) starts at 9:00am. BBQ & Bonfire at 6:00pm

Wednesday, 6 January	
All Day	• Staff Training & Preparation
9:00am–11:00am	• Divisional Coordinators available for subject options/timetable changes

Thursday, 7 January	
9:00am	• Whole School Assembly (subject to prevailing COVID-19 safe management measures)
9:45am–10:20am	• Year 5 Tutor Group meetings to go over expectations, timetables, iSAMS personal details followed by IBDP Introduction (10:30am–12noon)
9:45am–11:00am	• Tutor Group meetings (all except Year 5) to go over expectations, timetables, iSAMS personal details. Year groups released at 11:00am unless required for subject options/timetable changes with Divisional Coordinators

Friday, 8 January	
8:00am	• Chapel (Year 6 to gather in Oldham Chapel, the rest of school to watch from Tutor Rooms)
8:45am	• Period 1 begins, followed by regular timetable

Monday, 11 January	
8:00am	• House Meetings
8:45am	• Period 1 begins, followed by regular timetable



Lunar New Year 2021

To reduce disruption to curriculum time during the Lunar New Year period, the events/activities on the following dates are organised:

Tuesday, 9 February

- Lunar New Year Assembly • Staff Lunch

Wednesday, 10 February to Tuesday, 16 February

- Lunar New Year break – SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday, 17 February

- Normal classes resume

Year Groups to Take PEAKS Assessment in 2021

During Term 1 of 2021, all newly admitted Year 1, 1B and Year 5 students plus all Year 4 students (including Pre IB and Foundation IB students) are required to take the PEAKS assessment. Year 1 and 1B students will be guided to do theirs in iMac suite during school hours, while the other year groups outside of curriculum time. The assessment fee is \$481.50 (inclusive of GST). Details in January 2021 issue.

Safe Distancing Observance in Holland Village

We have received a number of complaints about students gathering in groups in Holland Village and near the MRT station. Breaking the law by not obeying safe distancing measures and not wearing masks reflects very badly on the individuals and on the school. We ask all students to please keep themselves safe by observing the recommended safe distancing measures, respect the school uniform and school values, and obey the law, be it during term time or school break!

Stay Home If Unwell

Students who feel unwell (e.g. having cough, fever, flu or stomach upset, feeling nausea) prior to coming to school are advised to stay home to rest and to consult a doctor if necessary. Please visit only one clinic and do not doctor-hop. When back to school, please submit your parent's/guardian's letter of excuse or medical certificate to your tutor.

Writing to the School

Parents/Guardians who write in to the school via email or with a hardcopy letter for school absence, approval for leave, etc. should include the official name, year and House of their child/ward (e.g. Alan Tan Hong Tong, 2 SVM), to facilitate prompt attention.

Blazer Donations

Leaving students are requested to donate their old school blazers to the school for "recycling". They can deposit their blazer at the Reception, General Office, for the school to dryclean and on-sell.

Clearing Lockers

All students must empty their locker and remove their lock by Monday, 16 November. Any gear left in the lockers will be removed and given to charity.

ACS Echo

The October–November 2020 issue of ACS Echo magazine has arrived. Parents and students may pick up one copy from the General Office reception.



STUDENT SUCCESS

Singapore Mathematical Olympiad 2020

The Singapore Mathematical Olympiad (SMO) is the largest and oldest mathematics competition in Singapore. The top 35% of the participants will receive an Award Certificate (Gold for top 3%, Silver for the next 12% and Bronze for the next 20%).

On 7 and 8 September, 59 students (Years 1 to 6) from ACS (International) took part in SMO 2020. Our list of winners is as follows:

Name	Year	Certificate
Junior Category		
Kim Minwoo	Year 2	Bronze
Senior Category		
Ethelyn Huang Meici	Year 3	Bronze
Liu Jihan	Year 3	Honourable Mention
Open Category		
Justin Cheng Ming Hearn	Year 5	Bronze
Chia Fui Rupert	Year 5	Honourable Mention

Year 2 Student Achieves Bronze NYAA



It was dark. My friends and I left the tents we had just pitched among the coconut trees to go for a night walk by the beach. Suddenly, we saw a ghost! It was a horn-eyed ghost crab.

This was the experience I had for the Outdoor Appreciation component of the Bronze National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA). The Bronze NYAA comprises three components: Outdoor Appreciation, Healthy Living and Service Learning.

For Outdoor Appreciation, I went camping with my friends at East Coast Park (before the COVID-19 outbreak took centre stage). Other than the "ghost", we also saw grasshoppers, lizards, cockroaches, snails, turtle eggshells, and other crabs, such as smooth-eyed ghost crabs and a Sally lightfoot crab. We also observed the burrows and footprints the crabs made. In the morning, we rented bicycles and cycled around. It was great spending time with my friends outdoors. We hope to do it again soon.

For Healthy Living, I undertook gardening at school which helped me relieve stress and stay healthy. I feel a sense of joy and achievement to see the plants grow and thrive. I am very grateful to Ms Jackson and Ms Cheah for setting up and caring for the school garden. While working on the NYAA, you get to meet a lot of nice teachers, school staff such as security guards and cleaners, and fellow students.

Other than gardening, I also participated in rock climbing at school and with my brother at a rock climbing gym. It is a nice bonding time with my brother. I got to develop my skills in rock climbing along with my strength. I truly feel good and know that I can achieve different things. I started from the easier routes but through practice, I am now able to do harder routes.

For Service Learning, I volunteered at Willing Hearts soup kitchen that provides food for those in need. It was an eye-opening experience working in a busy kitchen. I enjoyed working alongside friends, peeling and chopping cucumbers, potatoes, beans, among other things. One of them, Timothy Goh, a Year 5 student, spent a lot of time helping out in the garden and volunteering at Willing Hearts with me. It was quite fun to meet students of other year groups and make friends with them.

I felt privileged to be the first student to achieve Bronze NYAA this year. I have made new friends, explored new adventures, contributed to the community, and become stronger. I strongly encourage all the students in our school to participate in NYAA and try new things together. Sign up for NYAA with Ms Laura today!

Wei Zhi Wong (Johannes), 2 Oldham





Saarvanish, Titus (in neon top), Nuh, Johannes and Darnesh cycling at the beach



Johannes (seated) and Timothy peeling cucumbers at Willing Hearts



Johannes climbing a rock at the beach



Johannes and Timothy working on a planter in school



Johannes using a bandsaw to cut a piece of pallet wood



Johannes, Nuh, Darnesh and Titus working together to pitch a tent



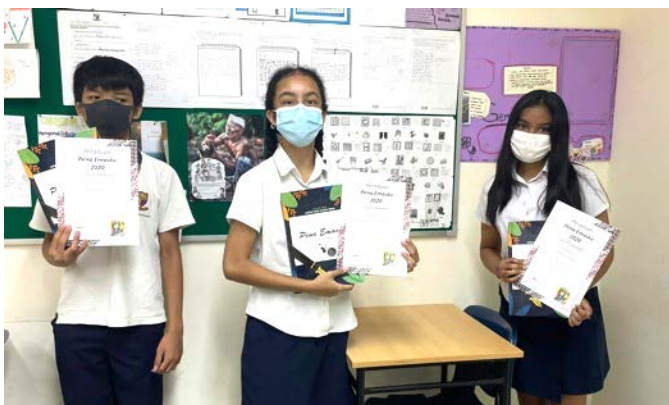
Pena Emas Essay Competition

Six students from our Malay Language classes (Years 2 and 3) participated in this annual national level event, Pena Emas 2020, sponsored by EDN-Media Consultant, which took place around the same time as the launch of our Language Week in Term 3. The objectives of this competition are as follows:

- To provide the opportunity for students to showcase their talents;
- To instil confidence in writing composition;
- To sharpen students writing skills & techniques; and
- To encourage the creative and fun learning of the Malay Language.

Congratulations to all our six participants who achieved Gold award (85 marks and above) and Silver (65-84 marks) award in this competition.

No.	Name of Student	Tutor Group	Category
1	Maya Anne Haridas	2 OLD	Silver
2	Weeratunge Sarisha Dinandee Perera	2 TCT	Gold
3	Nuh Bin Ahmad Zuhairi	2 GHK	Gold
4	Harith Mikail Mohamed Nasser	3 CKS	Gold
5	Priya Renee Peeris	3 TTK	Gold
6	Tamaara Shanmugaratnam	3 OLD	Gold



(From left) Year 2 Nuh, Sarisha and Maya



(From left) Year 3 Priya, Harith Mikail and Tamaara

Student Reflections

I did enjoy doing this composition as it took some stress off all the examination pressure and it was relaxing. I do, however, feel that I could have done better if I put in more effort and if I were not so busy studying for the big examinations. I am grateful to the school for giving me this experience to improve my writing and the exposure to external competitions.

Maya Anne Haridas

I enjoyed this competition as it had pushed me to achieve the Gold award. Malay Language is not my Mother Tongue but this had motivated me even more to do well in the Malay Language. Overall, it was very delightful.

Weeratunge Sarisha Dinandee Perera

Never had I thought of getting the Gold award in the "Pena Emas" competition. Over the pass few times of participating in this competition, this one had been the most memorable. I hope to do as well and maybe even better in future competitions such as this.

Nuh Bin Ahmad Zuhairi

When I looked back on what I did, I really did not expect to get this award, I am both humbled and flattered that the organisers have given my essay a Gold award. I haven't been a good student in the Malay Language; there is no secret recipe for me. This only goes to show that with hard work, anyone can surpass their own limits and achieve anything.

Harith Mikail Mohamed Nasser

I enjoyed myself throughout this competition and I am happy that I got the chance to represent my Malay Language class. It was also a good opportunity to express my ideas in the Malay Language. The inspiration behind my essay lies in my experiences of living in such unprecedented times. I am very happy that I received the gold award in this competition. Overall, the "Pena Emas" competition was a very meaningful experience for me and I would like to thank Cikgu Chin for the opportunity and guidance.

Priya Renee Peeris

It was a very exciting experience for me as it was our third time joining this writing competition. This achievement has encouraged me to explore and improve further on my writing.

Tamaara Shanmugaratnam

*Mdm Chin & Mdm Goh,
Malay Language teachers*

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

2020 IB Visual Arts Exhibition

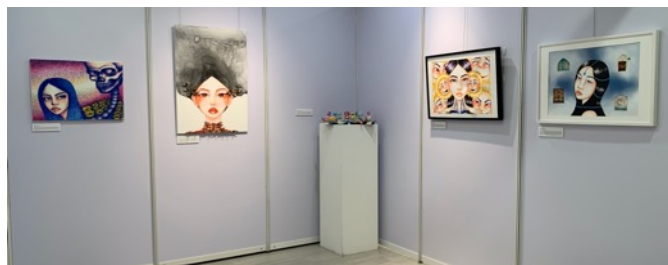
This year’s IB Visual Arts exhibition was entitled “Life is Only One”. We created our works around various themes such as mental health, escaping reality, emotions, identity, and living as an individual, expressing our individual perspectives on life and concepts that are important to us.

Despite school closure during the circuit breaker period whereby we had limited access to resources and space for our art-making, we managed to meet the examination requirements to curate an exhibition of 8 to 11 art works for Higher Level students, and 4 to 7 for Standard Level students. This had been a challenge for some schools but we made up for the lost time because our teacher, Mr Talbot opened the Art department from Monday to Friday during the two-week September holidays for us.

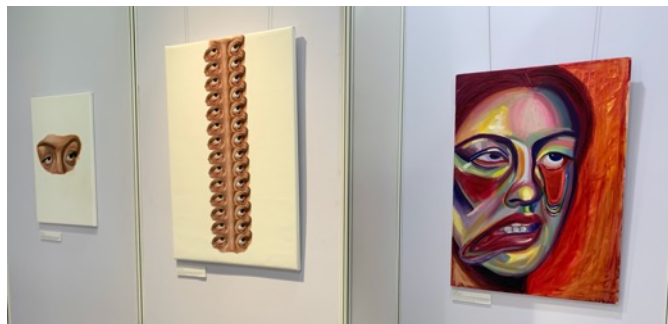
Throughout the journey, we experimented with and developed various new artistic skills in media such as painting, photography, screen printing, sculpture and installation. A huge amount of commitment, time and effort had been invested in the creative process. The art works included paintings of various styles from realism to abstraction; creative use of materials such as emulsion lifts of polaroid photographs; and three-dimensional works made from different materials such as light bulbs, acrylic sheets, film montages, and pacifiers.

Each of us is proud of our achievement. We would like to thank staff, family and friends, some of whom managed to view the exhibition, for their support. Lastly, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our Visual Arts teacher, Mr Talbot, for guiding and supporting us with feedback and advice on our artistic development.

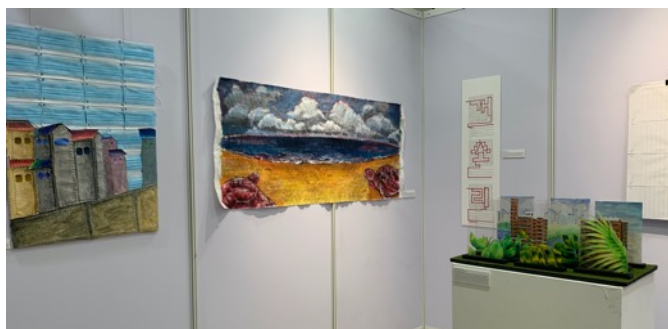
*Phoebe Kwan, 6 TKK
on behalf of the cohort, Bryan Huen, Ashley Ong,
Kim Eunjung Rose and Kim Yeojin*



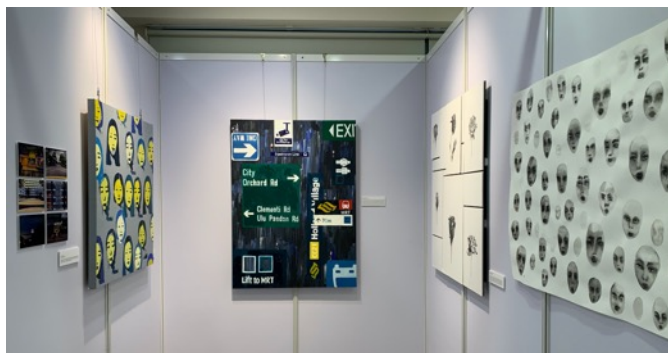
Part of Ashley Ong's exhibition



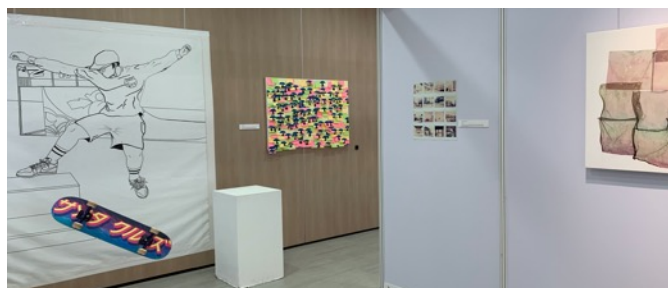
Part of Phoebe Kwan's exhibition



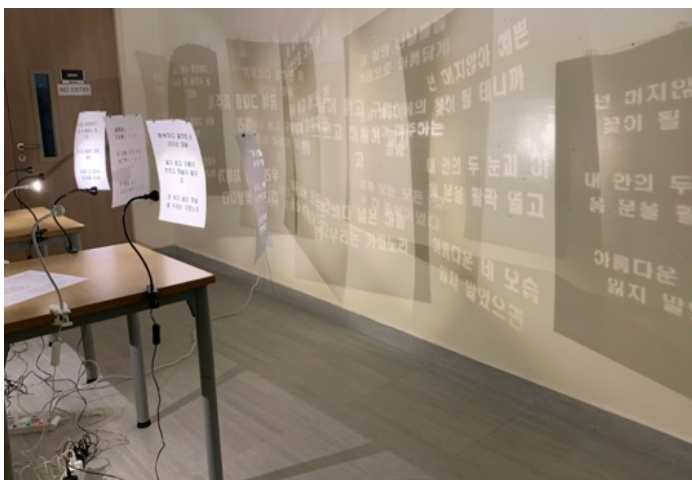
Part of Kim Yeojin's exhibition



Part of Kim Eujung's exhibition



Part of Bryan Huen's exhibition



Kim Yeojin's installation

Exhibition “Conflict” by Foundation IB Students

In response to Lebanese artist Mona Hatoum and her artwork *Hotspot*, our class made installations relating to the topic “Conflict” to convey our views on conflicts, wars, or political issues that are happening all over the world.

There were a total of six projects undertaken in groups of 2 or 3:

Trump Tower: A structure built from playing cards and wooden sticks, with news headlines about the Trump presidency. This work challenged the viewers to contemplate the delicate balance between the truth and the lies that Trump might have spread throughout his presidency. The house of cards, a metaphor for the frailty of his power, was built on a “base” of deception.

0001: A model of a corpse made with newspapers and covered with red paint. One of its arms was missing as it laid lifeless on the floor. It represented the literal consequences of conflict, where many suffered injuries and died, often only being remembered as statistics.

Scope: A model rifle built from chopsticks, and aimed to draw light on the armaments used in battles.

Stalemate: This project depicted the ongoing conflict between capitalism and communism with cardboard soldiers arranged across a chessboard. It examined the consequences when two ideologies clash, resulting in losses for both sides and eventual stalemate.

Faith and Execution: A collection of photographs about terrorism and the cost such actions brought to lives, particularly on civilians caught in the crossfire.

Behind the Light: An artwork made from wire shaped into a map of the world. It represented the widespread occurrence of conflict around the globe by illuminating a silhouette of the world onto news articles, and shining a metaphorical light onto conflict.

Through the project, we were introduced to a few media and techniques which enabled us to express our intentions and concerns on the issues of world conflict. We also learnt about the various forms of conflict and disputes in which we have chosen to research on, and how to creatively convey our ideas. Being exposed to past and present conflicts from around the globe, and learning from them, will hopefully help us become better global citizens in the future.

Chan Yee Lok, 4 GHK, and Hoi Ching Wan, 4 SVM



Project Clean Hands

Year 2020 has been exceptional. Due to the COVID-19 situation, all overseas trips have been cancelled. We have to think of ways to venture into the unknown and more importantly keeping our fellow students safe, hence the birth of Project Clean Hands.

This project is a virtual “service trip” where students formed small groups to plan and conduct hour-long lessons, teaching children living in small villages in Cambodia how to maintain proper hygiene and wash their hands properly. We hope that after the children learnt how to practise hygiene, they could go home and educate their family members as well.

All of the Year 5 groups worked hard during the September holidays, planning and creating lesson plans, visuals and resources to use in their lessons. Lessons were geared to be as engaging and enjoyable for the children as possible. Students had a chance to use their creativity to come up with new ideas on how to make lessons fun, with some groups coming up with songs and dances; while others used storytelling and raps to teach. The groups then conducted their lessons on different days over the first two weeks of Term 4 via Google Meet.

As a bonus, the project was featured on Channel News Asia and News 5 on Tuesday, 13 October. Check out the news: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Op45vxaZ9V4&feature=youtu.be>

Congratulations to Project Clean Hands Service team.

*Natalie Chew, 5 CKS
Project Leader*



Student Reflections

Project Clean Hands meant a lot to me as it created a deeper self-understanding and gave a sense of awareness of what it is like in other countries right now. A lot of countries are struggling at the moment with the global pandemic situation and I am delighted to be able to play a part in helping to fight against the virus. It also made me more appreciative of things around me. The children I worked with in Cambodia have fewer resources than we do but are still happy. This project made me a better person in general and I am happy to have taken the role in teaching these children how to maintain proper hygiene.

*Kyu Bin Byun, 5 CKS
Team 5 Leader*

Participating in Project Clean Hands helps me build a better understanding of international issues. It gave me an insight into how we can help children in countries like Cambodia to improve their lives by teaching them proper clean hand hygiene, and help raise awareness to protect not only themselves but their community as well through creative means during the lessons we had delivered.

The experience not only helped me widen my worldview but also how we can help others despite the pandemic which prevents us from helping directly. It showed me that no matter what the situation is, we can provide help to those in need. Utilising the technology that is available to us, we can ensure that the lives of the less fortunate can benefit from our contributions.

Though there were minor hiccups along the way such as IT issues, I am very grateful for the opportunity to partake in this project because it made me realise how much we can do to help others. I am thankful for my group mates for making the experience much more enjoyable. Cooperating and working together helped make things run smoothly.

*Ashleigh Yeu, 5 Oldham
Team 8 member*



Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

This year's Mid-Autumn Festival celebration took a twist as we have to observe safe distancing while creating a festive mood.

Several activities like Kahoot! quiz, postcard- and mooncake-making were conducted during languages classes. However, lantern riddles are a must so lanterns were put up at the Student Centre with a QR code attached to each. Students were seen flashing their phones around while they gave it a try at guessing the riddles. Alongside this, bookmarks produced by the Chinese Calligraphy CCA were sold to raise funds for the Chinese Development Assistance Council.



Student Reflections

Chinese traditional festivals always have a special place in my heart. Therefore, it is important for me to plan everything well to provide the school community with a chance to experience the Mid-Autumn Festival this year.

During the process, my greatest challenge was to manage my time between my IB course work and this project. In the beginning, the coordination work seemed to pile up and I felt hopeless and wanted to give up. However, my Chinese teacher, Mdm Cheng Wei, guided me through the process by distributing the tasks to team members, creating a timeframe so I could work step by step. All these skills helped me manage my stress and complete the project without interfering with my IB course work.

From this experience, I believe I have become a better leader through working closely with my team while communicating with the teachers. I also learned more about how the traditional festival is celebrated in different ways, for example, China versus Singapore. I am glad that my friends told me that they enjoyed the activities that we planned. And hopefully I will have one more chance to help organise this kind of project before I graduate.

*Victor Wang Zhijun, 5 TKK
Student Organiser*

When I first heard about this Mid-Autumn Festival riddle event, I had no interest in participating – even if it was for bubble tea. I thought I would not even have the chance to answer the question correctly, as I am not a fluent Chinese speaker, and Chinese is one of my weakest subjects.

During tutor time, my House tutor brought the class to the Student Centre to look at the decorations. Influenced by my classmates, I thought I might as well attempt one of the easier riddles. Without my classmate's help in explaining what the Chinese phrase meant, I don't think I would have got it right...

After this experience, I have learnt a new Chinese phrase 为虎作伥, which means to do evil things in the service of the wicked. I have also learnt that the Mid-Autumn Festival or 中秋节, isn't all about the vibrant lanterns and the delectable mooncakes; it is a celebration of one's hard work and harvest, and spending time with your family and friends. Coming from an Indonesian household, I did not have much knowledge about this joyous festival and the history behind it. Then later on in Chinese class, I learnt a lot more about the festival.

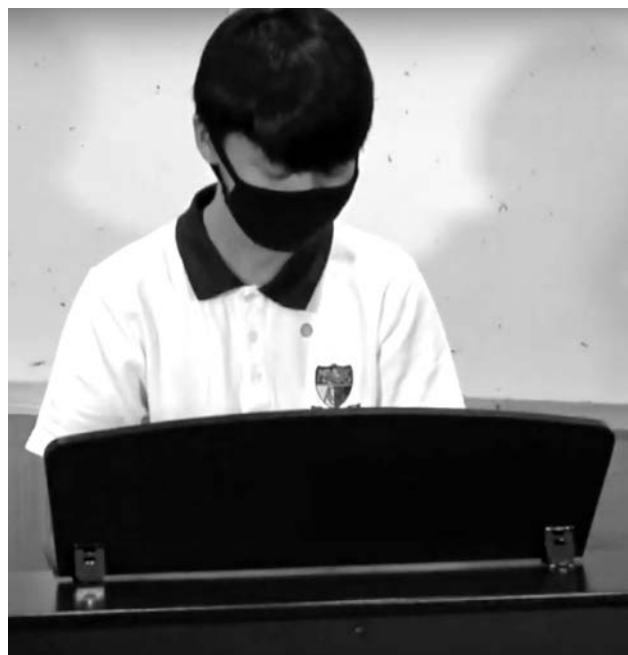
Zefanya Loretta Sarianna Sianipar, 2 TKK

A Mini-Recital by Year 3 Music Students

On 13 October, Year 3 music students put up an informal ensemble performance examination-cum mini-recital concert, to a cosy audience of supportive parents and friends. Parents even commented that we should do this every week, if possible.

This series of mini-recitals, the first being held in Term 1, was held in preparation for the students' music performance examination in 2021 so that the students can gauge for themselves the level of mental preparedness of their physical performance condition and their choice of repertoire and ensemble team mates. They learned to choose appropriate and suitable music pieces, organise their rehearsal schedules, and collaborate with their peers and ensemble team mates (internally and externally) where needed.

We would like to thank Mdm Boey Chern Ling, mother of student Marisa Lee, who is an accomplished musician, for standing in for one of the accompanists who could not make it for the recital.



(Clockwise from top) Shane Chen, Summer Yew, Lenard Oh, Marisa Lee, Mdm Boey and Larissa Chan

Published with permission from parent Mdm Boey Chern Ling



HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS**Year 5 Virtual Mentoring Programme**

December 2020 to March 2021

30 mentors available

Mentoring allows students with the opportunity to learn more about a role from the assigned mentor. Students also receive guidance as they chart their academic path to embark on their future career(s). Students will be assigned to mentors who are the experts in their own field based on the course preferences of the students. Each mentor will meet their mentee over 4 to 6 sessions during the programme.

Current Available Opportunities

Medicine

Dentistry

Entrepreneurship

Business/Finance: Financial Services (Insurance) and Fast-Moving Consumer Goods

Advertising

Sales & Marketing

Technology – Product Design & Development or Animation & Visual Effects

Arts Administration/ Theatre Production and Stage Management

Student Reflections (Pilot Virtual Mentoring attachment in September)

“Through providing guidance and advice for my personal statement and interviews, as well as opportunities to discuss different healthcare systems and some of the core ethical beliefs and qualities that make a good doctor, this invaluable mentoring experience clarified all the doubts I had about the profession and enabled me to see medicine as a future career for myself.”

Megan Man, 6 TKK

“I had the opportunity to participate in the Mentoring Programme with an ophthalmology specialist. However, due to the ongoing COVID-19, the programme was done virtually instead of face-to-face with the doctor. Nonetheless, I still thought it was a meaningful experience to not only broaden my knowledge about my desired future career, but also to practise and implement vital skills involved in the occupation with advice from my mentor. With my lack of experience and exposure to this occupation, this experience helped guide my future plans for university.”

Nayoung Yang, 5 LSG

“I started my mentoring sessions with Mr Ken, a successful businessman who runs his start-up business. This was a great opportunity to get familiar with entrepreneurship which I have always been interested in. I used to have a misconception on entrepreneurship – that businessmen must be creative, brave and risk-taking. I know now that it is not so much undergoing risky challenges without any guarantees to success. It is more about persuading and delivering values to people. This understanding has helped me a lot as I explore my possible future career paths.

He also taught me about how to cope with crises in life and make decisions. I have always been afraid of failure and hesitated to start something new. Mr Ken taught me not to overthink and worry too much as it is natural and completely alright to face difficulties and fail at times. “Life is a journey” is what he shared with me; it will guide me to pursue what I truly want!”

*Yoona Son (Iris), 5 Oldham***Year 5 Virtual Job Shadowing Programme**

30 November to 11 December (Each stint is 3 to 5 days)

5 stints available

Job Shadowing allows students with the opportunity to work alongside professionals while they benefit in gaining relevant experience and making informed decision with regards to their future career(s).

Current Available Opportunities

Arts (Content Creation)

Business/Finance

Sales & Marketing

Interested students are to email Ms Yap at linlin.yap@acsinternational.edu.sg to express their interest in the Virtual Mentoring or Job Shadowing Programme, by Friday, 13 November.

PSP NEWS

STUDY NIGHTS 2020

Since its commencement on 29 September, Study Nights has created a buzz among Year 4 and graduating students for its international-themed dinners and snacks sponsored by the PSP Exco. Unlike previous years, the PSP has decided to go all out by offering a “taste of home” especially to our international students affected by lockdown restrictions this year.

With the support of vendors, the PSP arranged meals which began with a week of burgers, nuggets, and Japanese bento boxes, followed by Korean bento sets and Four Fingers the week after. If this was not enough to whet one’s appetite, Thai basil chicken and Taiwan LuRouFan were other popular dishes as well as crispy fried chicken and rice meals from Bonchon and Jollibee. This was followed by an Italian week of pizza from Canadian Pizza and basil and tomato pasta from Cafe4You and a week of Singaporean flavours of delicious Hainanese chicken and porkchop rice meals. Desserts have included ice-cream and sweets as well as cupcakes from Little House of Dreams.

Students were delighted by the variety of dishes this year, and the PSP Exco was equally pleased by the compliments and overwhelming response it received from the students. No doubt, the different meals complemented by a fully-loaded snack bar at the library with healthy snacks sponsored by Bienenstock put a smile on everyone’s faces, providing comfort during those long afternoons of intense preparation.

The final session of Study Nights will be held on 12 November, ending weeks of self-study and hard work. On behalf of the PSP, our best wishes to our Year 4 and graduating students!



UPCOMING EVENTS

November	Event
2–16	• Normal lessons resume
11 & 12	• End-of-Year Activity Days
13	• 08:00–12:15 End-of-Year House Activity Day (School dismissal at 12:15pm)
15	• Year 6 Graduation Ceremony
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term 4 End-of-Year Academic Report published • Last Day for all students (School dismissal at 11:15am) • 11:30–13:00 Speech Day Rehearsal (for Prize Winners)
18	• 09:00–10:15 Speech Day (Prize Winners Only)
19 & 20	• Staff Only days



ACS (INTERNATIONAL)
DIPLOMA GRADUATION CEREMONY
CLASS OF 2020

GUEST OF HONOUR
 REVEREND BERNARD CHAO

NOVEMBER **15** 3:00 PM



OLDHAM CHAPEL
 ACS (INTERNATIONAL)

ZOOM & FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM VIA QR CODE OR LINK
 MEETING ID: 838 2387 6213
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ACSINTERNATIONALSINGAPORE/](https://www.facebook.com/acsinternationalsingapore/)

Barrett Music 2020 Finalists

Friday, November 13th



Marisa Renjia Lee



Ui Ogino



Kim Minju



Timothy Goh



Lim Jia Ying



Cai Jia Zhen



Hailey Ng Hei Lam



Sawa Keishiro



Luca Buchanan



Ethelyn Huang



Catch us anytime from 8:00am to 1:00pm, 13 Nov.
<https://vimeo.com/472486434>



ACS (International)
A Methodist Institution

ACS (International) Singapore is a distinctive international secondary school open to all Singaporeans & other nationalities, offering an all-round English-based education for students aged 12 to 18 years leading to the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).

School Senior Management Team



Mr Rob Burrough
Principal



Mrs Tan Siew Hoon
Vice Principal



Mr Gavin Kinch
Vice Principal



Dr Kristopher Achter
Vice Principal



ACS (International) Admissions Seminars for 2021

Post PSLE Seminar for Locals

26 November, 1pm & 3pm

27 November, 10am, 1pm & 3pm

28 November, 9:30am & 11:30am

RSVP admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg

Seminars will be held on Campus with School Tour
Attendance is limited and by reservations only

Venue: Oldham Chapel, ACS (International)
61 Jalan Hitam Manis, Singapore 278475

Please contact Joseph Ng or Serene Lim
at +65 6472 1477 or admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg