

## ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Dear Parents, Students and Friends

On 26 July, Minister Ong Ye Kung delivered a Ministerial Statement to Parliament on behalf of the COVID-19 Ministerial Task Force. The transcript of the statement can be found [here](#). In this statement, Minister Ong made it very clear that Singapore is committed to a path towards normalcy and living with COVID-19. The Minister outlined that the transition will require a collective psychological shift, will be implemented in a controlled way and that there may be unexpected setbacks in the process.

Due to this approach, schools have enjoyed a small easing of restrictions with CCAs and learning journeys permitted to run. However, in the past week, Singapore has “tapped the brakes” on easing the restrictions. Within schools, this has meant the suspension of CCAs and learning journeys, a return to HBL for primary schools in the lead up to the PSLE and adjustments made to examination protocols to allow qualifying students on a Quarantine Order or Health Risk Warning to sit external examinations.

Over recent weeks, the collective psychological shift has been tested as we experience the inevitable rise in cases that comes with transitioning to living with COVID-19. Within our school community, some parents are concerned over the impact that ongoing restrictions will have on their child’s well-being and educational outcomes, and so they wish to see the continued easing of restrictions and a move back to normalcy. We also have parents who are concerned about their child’s health and the impact that contracting COVID-19 would have on them and their family, and so they wish to see a more cautious approach.

As a school, we look to responsibly balance these points of view and make decisions based upon the latest government advice. Recently, we decided to proceed with end-of-year adventure camps. We chose to do this as we believe that it is in keeping with the national posture of a move to normalcy. In addition, in our recent parent and student surveys, a number of comments asked for the resumption of camps and large events. We carefully chose providers who were certified to run activities, visited the sites to understand how the activities would work and read their risk assessment plans. When at camp, students will be outdoors with their year level peers only. When compared with a normal school day where students spend the majority of time indoors and have more interactions with students in other year levels, it is our judgement that the camps pose no greater risk of transmission than a normal school day. However, if the camps are not permitted to occur due to tightened restrictions, we would not proceed with the camps. Similarly, the school follows the national posture to allow qualifying students who may have had a close contact with a COVID-19 case to sit their external examinations. These students must meet qualifying criteria, conduct a school supervised ART test and, if negative, must sit the examination in a separate room. There may also be other school activities that need to undergo a similar judgement of how to balance a return to normalcy while doing so in a responsible manner, such as the upcoming Year 6 Graduation.

Over the coming months, the school will continue to seek to strike the right balance between normalcy and responsibility. We will do so by following health advice, taking guidance from MOE and other international schools and listening to our school community. I ask that as we navigate this journey together, we demonstrate grace to our students, parents and staff, and that we continue to uphold our school and Singapore in prayer.

**Gavin Kinch**  
Principal

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For comments and feedback, please email [acsinternational.communications@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:acsinternational.communications@acsinternational.edu.sg)

## STAFF NEWS

## Long Service Awards

Congratulations to the following staff for their service at ACS (International):

## 2021 Methodist Schools Long Service Award



**Ms Diana See:**  
20 years of service in Methodist schools – 6 years with ACS (International);  
14 years with Paya Lebar Methodist Girls'



**Mdm Liew Woon Chan:**  
Retirement Award – 15 years of service with ACS (International)

## 2021 Long Service Award



Ms Beena George



Ms Cynthia Navamani



Mr Antonio Lacrua Inigo



Mr Peter Talbot



Ms Rhevatee Gobin



Ms Ho Chia Yue



Mr Sivagnanaratnam Sivarajan



Ms Manwant Kaur



Ms Cheng Meng Leng

The school thanks each and every one of them for their dedication and commitment, and wishes them many more years with ACS (International).

## NOTICES

### Term 4 Key Dates

Please note the following key dates for Term 4:

| October  |  |
|----------|--|
| 6        | Last day for Year 6  |
| 13       | Year 5 Internal End-of-Year Exams begin  |
| 15       | Middle Division Study Leave begins   |
| 18       | Middle Division Internal End-of-Year Exams begin   |
| 22       | Junior Division Study Leave begins   |
| 25       | Junior Division Internal End-of-Year Exams begin   |
| 29       | Last Day of Internal End-of-Year Exams   |
| November |  |
| 1–17     | Normal school days   |
| 4        | Deepavali Public Holiday (School closed)   |
| 8–10     | End-of-Year Adventure Camps for 1B, Year 1, Year 2 & Pre IGCSE   |
| 11 & 12  | End-of-Year Adventure Camps for Year 3, Pre IB & Foundation IB   |
| 10       | Final IBDP examination   |
| 11       | Year 6 Graduation Ceremony (for Year 6 Graduands only unless COVID-19 restrictions are further eased and parents may attend) |
| 16       | Normal Time-table<br>Speech Day rehearsal for Prize Winners (after school dismissal)   |
| 17       | Speech Day (All academic staff and students to be present)<br>Academic reports to be given out<br>School dismissal (by 11am) |
| 18 & 19  | Staff Only days  |

### Examinations Matters

#### *Internal End-of-Year, IB and IGCSE Examination Schedules*

The schedule of the 2021 Internal End-of-Year Examinations as well as those of IB and IGCSE Examinations can be found [here](#) with no login required by parents or students. Other information such as the IGCSE and IBDP programmes, assessment criteria, parent portal (iSAMS) and schools buddy portal can be accessed from the same link.

#### *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.

#### *End-of-Year School Examinations*

School examinations for Years 1, 2, 3, 5 plus Pre IGCSE, Pre IB and Foundation IB students begin on Wednesday, 13 October, and end on Friday, 29 October. Student need only attend school for their actual examinations during the examination period.

#### *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.

### Year 6 IB Results Release

The results of the 2021 November IB Diploma examinations will be released in the Chapel on Tuesday, 4 January 2022, 12:00pm. The school will share the cohort's statistics and top performers; plus be available for counselling/queries, etc. Online results will be available from 12:30pm to all students. If prevailing SMMs do not allow us to gather in the Chapel, all students will need to get their results online. Thereafter, students may wish to collect the hardcopy result slip from the General Office from 9:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays.

### 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 dry clean and on-sell.

## Important Information for International Students

Parents/guardians of international students are to take note:

*School Calendar 2022*

The school calendar 2022 is now available on the school portal and for your viewing [here](#).

*Change of Contact Details*

Please notify the International Student Coordinator (ISC), Mdm Chin Siew Lin of any changes in residential address in Singapore, change of guardianship and homestay providers or local contact numbers (personal, parents, homestay providers or guardians) so that the school can update the changes in the database.

*Student Pass Holders*

If your child's Student Pass is expiring soon, please inform their guardian in advance for them to assist you with the renewal/extension. Please make an appointment to see Ms Serene Lim (Admissions Department) in the General Office for advice on the renewal/extension process if you or their guardian need any clarification.

*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 2022. The payment for the insurance (SGD\$300) will be billed to your child's/ward's 2022 school fees payment. Non-Honan insurance policy holders are advised not to renew your existing policy if it is expiring, as your child/ward is required to purchase a local insurance policy as required by the school.

*Exceptional Early Year-End Departure*

Term 4 finishes on Wednesday, 17 November, of which the end-of-year reports will be made available online. The Principal has sent a letter to international families outlining earlier dates that they may apply to leave from due to quarantine restrictions in their home countries. The letter can be found on the school website under Parent Communication or by clicking this [link](#).

All international students leaving Singapore for the year-end break must ensure that they return to Singapore in time to complete quarantine/stay home requirements before the first day of school on Friday, 14 January 2022. All travelling students must inform Mdm Chin at [siewlin.chin@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:siewlin.chin@acsinternational.edu.sg) by 7 December of their intended return date so that she could update the school before the academic year commences in 2022.

Parents/Guardians are advised to submit their child's/ward's online self-application for the Entry Approval via the Safe Travel Office (STO) website early (even before leaving Singapore, as early as two months before their intended travel date) to ensure safe and smooth re-entry of their child/ward into Singapore for the new academic year. They are also advised to check out [ICA's updated travel](#) and [SHN](#) information before their child's/ward's travel dates.

## Key Dates: IGCSE Subject Selection

The online submission was open on 20 August. Year 2 parents and students are to take note of the following dates:

- Friday, 5 November: Students to submit subject change forms, verified with parent's/guardian's signature
- Wednesday, 17 November: Students receive their finalised subject option

## 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.

## Safe Distancing Observance in Public

We ask all students to please keep themselves safe by observing the safe distancing measures, group size limits and mask wearing while in the local community.

## STUDENT SUCCESSES

### Year 2 Student Publishes HBL Research in US Scientific Journal

The school congratulates Govind Wagle (2 LSG) on the publication of the [study](#) related to Home-Based Learning during the circuit breaker period in 2020, in the Journal of Emerging Investigators, which he co-researched with his twin brother, Gopal Wagle, ACS (Independent). Read about their initial research which was first published in [2020 August newsletter](#).



Gopal and Govind Wagle (right) first did the research during the 2020 circuit breaker

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### 2021 Teachers' Day

On 27 August, the Student Council organised Teachers' Day, an annual event to celebrate and appreciate our teachers and staff.

The event carried the Olympics theme, hence we decided to name it the "OlympACS", with a twist on the recent Tokyo 2020 Olympics and our school name's initials. "OlympACS" was live-streamed from Oldham Chapel to the different locations where the teachers and staff were seated. It consisted of interactive games which could be played from the different locations; performances from students, special videos, and a dance by the Student Council and Exco members. The PSP also added elements of excitement and entertainment with the highly anticipated annual lucky draw.

Overall, the Student Council had a great experience working together with other student leaders, and we felt very accomplished with our first live event. It was very fortunate that we could still celebrate with our teachers and staff during this difficult time. We were also honoured to host a special event to show our appreciation to the teachers, and we hope that it was a memorable occasion to all present.

*Natanya Abigail Mandagi, 5 TCT, on behalf of the Student Council*



### NS Engagement Talk

About 50 parents and 20 students signed up for the online seminar on National Service (NS) on 13 September. The National Service Engagement Talk is a joint project between NEXUS (MINDEF) and ACS (International). Parents had submitted more than 20 questions which were dealt with by the speaker from Nexus. One parent and one of our staff members also shared about their experience as mothers and how NS brought their family closer. Three of our alumni shared about their current experience as full-time NS men. They were candid in their sharing and also helped to address the questions that popped up in the chat box. The recording of the talk is now available [here](#).

# Inter-House Debate 2021

This year's IH Debate competition might go down as the longest-running competition that ACS (International) has held, with the recurrent COVID-19 induced postponements resulting in seemingly perpetual delays. On the other hand, the postponements heightened the sense of anticipation and excitement around the event when it took place in August. All the teams started working in early April, primarily on the research and speech delivery aspects. The beauty and substance of IH Debate is that it demands and fosters collaboration. There were practice sessions, organised by Debate CCA, to ensure all teams understood more than just the basics of debating.

On the D Day (D = Debate), the motions challenged and entertained all. During the group stage, we debated about The rising trend of celebrities and influencers taking key roles in activism, Legally giving parents full access to their children's social media accounts, and Imposing significant environmental tax on fast fashion. In the final round, the motion, We should force people to sit for a mandatory Civics test before voting in National Elections, was a controversial one and the debates raised some very interesting points.

The debate was an incredible experience. I would like to thank my House mates and my team of debaters, as well as the other Houses for the strong competition they put forward and for making the experience more enjoyable, which is the ultimate purpose of IH events.

*Gurnihal Singh, 6 CKS*

### Results

- 1<sup>st</sup>: CKS
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Oldham
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: LSG
- Best Speaker: Gurnihal Singh, 6 CKS



## ACS (International) Philharmonic Orchestra Recording 2021

Due to the current COVID-19 situation in Singapore, we were unable to perform our annual ACS (International) Philharmonic Orchestra Concert at Victoria Concert Hall. However, our teachers-in-charge, Miss Grace Lim, Miss Jasmine Teo and Miss Carol Ling, arranged for a recording session to showcase all the beautiful pieces we have been working on throughout the year.

On Monday, 30 August, the members of the String Orchestra and Wind Band arrived in school at 9am, dressed in our formal black orchestra attire which brought back fond memories of our past performances over the years. After warming up, we started our rehearsals under the guidance of our conductor, Mr Lim's guidance. At about 10:30am, we made our way from the music room to the Oldham Chapel with our instruments, scores and music stands. A buzz of excitement began as we walked through the chapel doors and were greeted by stage lights, professional recording equipment and crew from the renowned production company, MSM Productions, who had painstakingly set everything up while we were practising earlier.

Taking our places on stage while taking care to maintain safe distancing, Mr Lim led us through a quick warm up before we started recording our first piece, La La Land. The recording producer, Mr Dominik Streicher, gave us detailed instructions and advice throughout the recording process so that we could achieve the best possible sound and effect. We had to record certain sections of the piece and even specific bars numerous times in order to get the perfect recording. After a short lunch break, we continued recording our next two pieces, Hoe Down and the first movement of Vivaldi's Winter. For the next few hours, strains of harmonious music wafted through the air as we played our hearts out, relishing in the precious opportunity to create such exhilarating music together. It was almost 5pm when we finally finished recording our last piece, Kiki's Delivery Service.

Next up was the Wind Band. After undergoing the unmasked video production pre-requisite for pre-event testing the day before, we were finally able to physically practise together as one ensemble for the first time since the Heightened Alert period. While we were able to continue with practice via online Zoom sessions, it was a great relief and joy to finally perform together with our fellow musicians face-to-face.

We made our way to Oldham Chapel after the String Orchestra, taking some time to settle down and warm up once more. Under the careful baton of Ms Samantha Choong, as well as Mr Streicher's guidance, we were proud to perform Tropical Trombones and Music from Aladdin, a medley of the aforementioned Disney film.

Although we were exhausted by the time recording ended at around 7pm, there was a great sense of pride and satisfaction among the entire Philharmonic Orchestra, knowing that the music we created would touch the hearts and souls of many.

Larissa Chan, 4 SVM



## Custodians' Appreciation Day

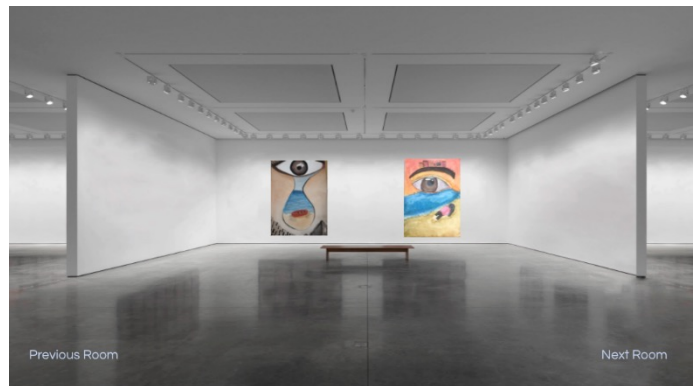
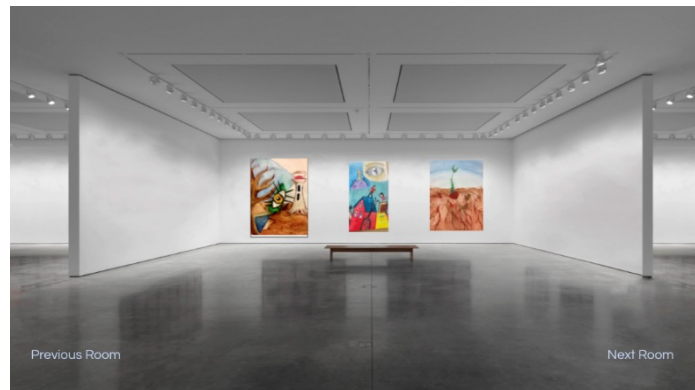
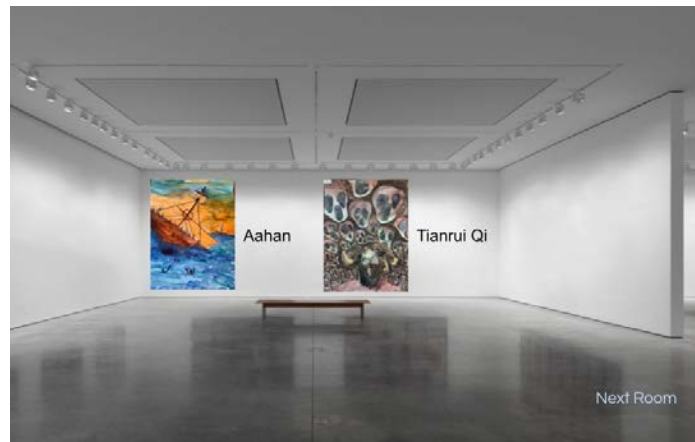
On 17 September, the school, in partnership with Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC), held our annual Custodians Appreciation Day. We gathered to say thanks to our cleaners, canteen workers and security guards. We truly appreciate all that they do to look after our school community. Mr Kinch and Chaplain Rev. Jeremy Ong both delivered a message of thanks. After this, gift vouchers provided by HVMC were handed out by Christian Ministry staff Lian Kuanh and Benjamin, and snacks were provided. Sadly, unlike past years, due to compliance with safe management measures, we could not eat together but grab our snacks and go. Thank you to all the cleaners, canteen workers and security guards for your service to the ACS (International) community.



## Year 2 Watercolour Painting Showcase

A total of 3 classes (2W, 2T and 2Z) did a watercolour painting project in response to the Monologue texts across the Aegean sea, showcasing their personal interpretations of the texts and their opinions about human migration due to war and persecution. Click on the following links to view the students' artwork:

|                           |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>2Z</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>2W</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>2T</u></a> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|





## Year 6 IB Visual Arts Exhibition: Where We Walk

The group of Year 6 IB Visual Arts students celebrated the opening night of their exhibition on 17 September with only 20 guests, due to the current COVID-19 SMM restrictions. The four artists, Ashleigh Yeu, Elliot Sivarajan, Tara Teo and Daisy Lyu, showcased a diverse range of art forms ranging from digital photography and painting, oil painting, sculpture in clay and resin, installation, screen-printing and charcoal drawing, etc. Their exhibition, entitled "Where We Walk" allows the viewers insights into their creative expressions and interpretations on issues that are personally relevant to them. The event was attended by the Principal, Mr Kinch, Mrs Tan, Ms Carol Ling, a few teachers and students by invitation.



The IB visual arts course has been a rewarding experience. I learnt fully what to "trust in the process" means. Art takes time and commitment and believing in yourself – 90% of the time, no one is an overnight genius.

*Tara Teo*

IB Visual Arts is a course that requires a lot of time and patience, but it has made me grow up a lot. It not only gives me a deeper understanding of art, but also enables me to see the diversity of the world. The art exhibition is the most enjoyable part of the course because it makes me feel fulfilled and satisfied when I see all my works on display.

*Daisy Lyu Jiaying*

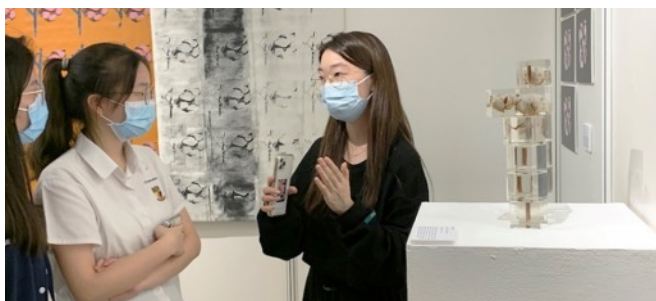


Over this 2-year journey of the IB Visual Arts course, it has been quite challenging as we have to face many hurdles and problems such as two HBL segments and our everlasting search for ideas and inspiration. I realised that I had to change my mindset and handle my time well. Art takes up a lot of time and commitment to do, however, the long days spent after school trying to finish our works and our preparation for the exhibition are the most unforgettable moments of this journey.

*Ashleigh Yeu*

I finally felt the evolution in my style after going through the IBVA course and setting up my exhibition. During IBVA, I learnt how to explore my emotions and self-identity after being inspired by and adapting to some artists' styles. Many late nights at home and in school working on my comparative study, process portfolio and exhibition came to a good note when I finally saw all my works mounted up on the panels.

*Elliot Sivarajan*



## Mid-Autumn Festival

What does it mean to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival at ACS (International)? Carrying a lantern? Making mooncakes? Finding out how various cultures celebrate the same festival? Making Japanese traditional food Dango? Have a go at guessing the lantern riddles? Write a poem? Learn to draw panda with chinese brush? Well, we did it all this year. And Mr Kinch was there to join in the fun!

### Student Reflections

As a celebration for Mid-Autumn Festival, the Year 4 Japanese Preparation Class for IB made Shiratama-dango (白玉団子) and Takoyaki (たこ焼き). Shiratama dango, directly translates to “white ball”, is nostalgic to me since I eat this frequently with my family when growing up in Japan. It carries many fond memories, and I hope everyone can try this sweet dango at least once in their lifetime! Eating dango (団子) is a symbol of happiness, good health and is believed to contain the blessings of the moon.

*Rikomei Suzuki, 4 Thoburn*

To celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, our Chinese teachers invited a Chinese calligraphy teacher Mr Pan to teach calligraphy and paintings. He demonstrated how to hold a pen and create strokes. Then he wrote the words 中秋節 and 花好月圓 on the calligraphy paper and wanted us to do the same. We practised while he explained the meanings to us. It took us a while to write correctly, but the results were great. In the latter half of the lesson, he showed us how to draw fish and pandas with the calligraphy brush. I was amazed with the amount of consideration put in about the anatomy of animals as he was drawing them so effortlessly. It was fun to connect with my own culture.

*Circle Suen Ching Man, 5 TKK*



### Winners of the Lantern Riddles

Zheng Yiqian, 3 TKK  
Zhang Qingyan, 3 Thoburn  
Song Yu, 2 CKS  
Wu Yufei, 2 CKS  
Cao Fangru, 3 CKS  
Napat Sakdibhornssup, 3 LSG  
Kim Sunbin, 3 SVM  
Kim Jibin, 3 SVM  
Yuri Masuda, 3 GHK  
Phyo Min Khant, 1 SVM



## Searching for Rainbow Escape Room 2021

This year, the 11th Ambassadors held a charity event entitled Searching for Rainbow from 20 to 25 September. All proceeds will go to the Rainbow Centre's new Admiral Hill campus.

As Ambassadors, our duty is to represent the school and collaborate with external communities. However, we are also obligated to represent every student and respond to their needs. During this period of increasing isolation and online interaction, we felt the need to organise an event that incorporated both activities with face-to-face interaction and a balance of adequate safe management measures to bring positivity through fun activities to the school.

Searching for Rainbow was an extremely precious experience to the Ambassadors. As a group, throughout the event, we have learned much about the significance of marketing and publicity, as well as the importance of interacting with our participants. Most importantly, we have reaffirmed the importance of working collaboratively as a team. We were pleased to have 134 sign-ups who played with good spirits and many brought back a pledge card to help raise more funds. If you would like to lend a helping hand, here's the [link](#) to our online campaign.

We are grateful for the extensive support offered by the many people who have come together to make this event a success: the participants, our sponsor the Parent School Partners, the teachers who allowed us to use their classrooms, the IT support staff and our teachers-in-charge.

*Sun Lehan, 5 Thoburn, Deputy Head of Ambassadors,  
and David Leong, 5 TTK, Secretary of Ambassadors*



### Student Reflections

The Escape Room was very fun and challenging as my friends and I got stuck at the last stage. Overall, the people in charge did an excellent job at planning this as the facilitator and the person giving instructions to us were very friendly and approachable!

*Kenneth Kao, 1 SVM*

Before signing up, we honestly did not expect it to be that entertaining. After all, it wasn't set up in a classroom. Little did we know that we would end up having so much fun. The Ambassadors Jinsol and Hyeonbin were very warm, making the event a memorable experience.

*David Kim, 3 SVM*

The event was well-planned despite the constraints we face. The exhilarating games were super fun and enjoyable. The level of difficulty was just nice, which kept us engaged throughout, yet allowed us to breakthrough in the end. It is very pleasing to have fun while raising funds for Rainbow Centre!

*Zheng Jiayi, 5 Thoburn*

The Escape Room allowed my friends and I to solve riddles together, strengthening our friendship. It was so enjoyable. Although the last riddle on music notes was challenging and we could not escape in time, I still hope that there will be another event as fun as this!

*Saya Ruchieve, 5 Thoburn*

Fun and meaningful! The Escape Room was well planned and executed, with complex challenges that got us parents stumped... and finally mortified at the realisation that we were not as smart as these kids who put this together. A big thank you to the warm and friendly ambassadors.

*Ms Alicia Tan, parent of Amelia Chua, 3 GHK*



**PSP NEWS**

**Teachers' Day**

Teachers' Day 2021 rolled round in a blink of an eye, after the disruptions and uncertainties of the past year caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The celebrations, muted due to the restrictions on social gathering, were held virtually with teachers and staff in four different locations on school campus, with 50 people in Oldham Chapel. Undeterred by such restrictions, the PSP nevertheless managed to whip up much excitement during the highly-anticipated lucky draw of 79 prizes, thanks to the generosity of many parents.

The lovely Ms Alysia Ling, one of PSP's three co-chairs, kicked off the segment with a heartfelt speech, thanking all teachers and staff on behalf of parents, for their support and encouragement towards the students. In line with the school's Go Green initiatives, the lively lucky draw, hosted by Mrs Celine Abueg and Mrs Charissa Buchanan, inaugurated the use of a web-based Wheel of Names, where PSP members took turns to virtually "spin" the wheel to reveal the name of winners. The dazzling prizes included a myriad of vouchers, bottles of wine, electrical appliances, Dyson and Apple products including AirPod Pro's, iPads and iPhones.

Mr Peter Talbot and Ms Manjari Sreedharan were the top prize winners of a red iPhone 12 128GB each. No one walked away empty handed – all teachers and staff were presented with one Lister's portable cushion massager plus one pastry box with a bottle of juice.

Congratulations to all the winners and Happy Teachers' Day 2021 to all teachers and staff!

*Mrs Charissa Buchanan  
PSP Exco 2021*



## Examination Care Packs

With the IGCSE and IB examinations looming imminently, members of the PSP quickly got together on 21 September to assemble examination care packs as gifts of support for the Years 4 and 6 students before they went off on study leave. Each examination care pack consisted of an ACS (International) clear pencil case (which they could use during their examinations) filled with yummy treats, stationery and PPG prayer cards.

With the efficiency of busy bees and camaraderie of two cheerful assembly lines, almost 340 examination care packs were assembled and packed into 32 large bags in less than an hour for distribution to each of the 16 tutor groups in Years 4 and 6 at the end of the week.

To all the Years 4 and 6 students, the very best of luck in your examinations and great success in your results! May God hold each of you in the palms of His hands to keep you safe during this period and calm during your examinations. Remember this: "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think" – Christopher Robin, from Winnie the Pooh

PSP



## Wellness Week: Parents Workshop

As part of the Wellness Week programme to be held from 4 to 8 October, the PSP has organised a workshop for parents.

As the end-of-year examinations are just around the corner, you might be wondering how you can support your children during this time. In this workshop, the school counsellors will provide practical tips and strategies to help parents navigate examination season successfully. Learn to identify signs of stress in your children and pick up a few relaxation skills that you can even use for yourself including: grounding techniques, deep-breathing exercises, and progressive muscle relaxation techniques. If you have any questions relating to examination stress that you would like the counsellors to address during the workshop, you may also email them to [charlina.gozali@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:charlina.gozali@acsinternational.edu.sg) by Saturday, 2 October.

### Workshop Details

Topic: Supporting Children Through Exams

Date: Monday, 4 October, 10am–11am

(The Zoom link has been shared with parents via email.)



## CCA UPDATES

### No Feeding of Wildlife in the Botanic Gardens Project

Our Interact Club students recently completed a “No Feeding of Wildlife in the Botanic Gardens” project at the end of August, under the Youth Stewards for Nature programme. Sponsored by the National Parks Board (NParks) of Singapore, this programme aims to guide youths to gain experience in landscape design, horticulture, or biodiversity conservation.

Our group of 10 Interactors from Year 3 and Year 5 embarked on the project at the start of the year, and went to the Botanical Gardens several times to survey and interview the visitors. The objective of the Project was to raise awareness to the public to not feed the wild animals in the Gardens. The highlights of the project included completing a Youth Stewards for Nature Programme that was conducted by NParks, creating a video and posters to raise awareness and an educational outreach campaign to the public over a six-month long period.

We had a meaningful learning experience working together and collaborating with NParks on this wildlife conservation project. Getting the opportunity to present to the NParks Directors and meet with the Minister for National Development Desmond Lee at the Presentation Ceremony at the end was also a highlight for us. We would like to thank Ms Caroline Heng who has supported and encouraged us as we embarked on this eight-month long project.

*Johannes Wong Wei Zhi, 3 Oldham,  
on behalf of the “No Feeding of Wildlife in the Botanic Gardens” team of the Interact Club*



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## Year 6 Interact Club President Among Top 10 Finalists of National Young Leader Award Competition

It has been an exciting month for our Interact Club! Many of our CAS Projects are finally coming to fruition after eight months of hard work and time invested. Special mention goes to our Year 6 Interact President, Lim Kai Jun (6 SVM), who recently emerged as one of the top 10 finalists in the National Young Leader Award Competition 2021, a nation-wide competition organised by the Halogen Foundation.

Kai Jun impressed the judges with our extensive 2021 Interact Club portfolio of service projects, in particular our Migrant Workers' Outreach Campaign. It was an intense competition and Kai Jun edged out hundreds of participants to reach the top 10 placing. He met with Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat once again when he received his Finalist Certificate at the Presentation Ceremony held on 18 September.

This is an incredible achievement for Kai Jun, our school and our 160-member strong Interact Club! His win is a huge boost to all of us and we will endeavour to serve our community to the best of our ability even in this challenging pandemic. Thanks for everyone's support and encouragement of Kai Jun and our Interact Club!

To find out more about the National Young Leader Award Competition, click [here](#).

To watch the National Young Leader Award Competition Presentation Ceremony, click [here](#). (Kai Jun's interview segment starts from 18:14)

*Interact Club Teacher*  
*Ms Caroline Heng*



## Envoy Club

*United Nations Peace Day*

Yone Shou Saw (4 GHK) was invited to be a speaker at the United Nations Peace Day in September, after being recognised for her participation in MUN Impact, a global organisation of which ACS (International) is a member. She was recommended by the Director of MUN Impact. The topic for 2021 was peace and a sustainable and equitable world, which is an important topic especially with the prevailing COVID-19 situation and the current events happening around the world. The UN invited youth speakers to hear about personal stories and individual perspectives of youth and UN peace messengers around the world. Yone Shou spoke about the issue in Myanmar and mental health because these issues are very close to her heart. She aimed at raising awareness about the coup and the severity of COVID-19 in Myanmar by highlighting the kindness and strength of her people despite the difficulties that they are experiencing.



*TED x Youth @ ACS (International)*

The Envoy Club hosted the first TEDx Youth event at ACS (International) on 22 September, with the theme Breaking the Cycle. Eight student speakers from our school as well as from the region, presented their points of view on the topic, sharing their experiences.



*Envoy Magazine*

The theme for the Envoy magazine is "The Search for Peace" and the articles are linked to SDG 4 and SDG 16. This collection of articles dives into the local and global issues that has given rise to conflicts which disrupted world peace. Click [here](#) to read the magazine.

## HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

### Job Shadowing Programme

(30 August to 10 September)

The main purpose of job shadowing is to help our students who may be interested in a job profile in which they do not have any experience. It provides them deeper insight about the job so that they can get a feel of the ins and outs of the profile. Basically, they get to check out if they can fit in the shoe of the person whom they are shadowing. They can observe the professionals making decisions, engaging colleagues, and pursuing professional goals. In the process, students can then make informed decisions on their educational and career pathways.

For the first time after the COVID 19 restrictions first started in 2020, the HE department successfully provided attachments for some senior students to organisations on their premises. Not virtual, but good old face-to-face meetings/discussions.

Our students enjoyed their Job Shadowing attachment tremendously and benefited greatly from the experience.



Published with permission from SilverSky Pte Ltd: Mr Wayne (above, left photo) and Ms Fiona Ho and Mr Esmond Low (top right photo)



### Student Reflections

Job Shadowing at Silversky allowed me to learn so much on how sales and marketing work. I learnt how the two are inter-twined and how it works together to bring a marketing strategy into a success. I admired the effort that has been put into the marketing strategies that I have ignored in my daily life on the internet as they appeared in different forms of advertisements. The marketing team was welcoming and encouraging to any ideas that I had given them during my marketing missions. I hope to excel in the field later in life.

*Park Byung-Joon (Benjamin), 5 CKS*

I totally enjoyed my experience at the law firm. It was interesting and fascinating to read real-life case files of different housings, firms, and shops as it made me feel like a lawyer! This job experience helped me gain a better understanding and a deeper insight into a lawyer's job which helped me to be certain and have no doubts about my major in college – law.



I am thankful to my co-workers and my supervisor who have guided me through this experience! Overall, I felt that this was a memorable experience."

*Crystell Phitoyo, 5 Thoburn*



The past five days spent at Pet's Avenue Veterinary Clinic was an eye-opening experience that allowed me to see many interesting things. Being able to apply my studies in school to this job, as well as learning how to make vaccines and getting to observe surgeries up close gave me a good overview of what the job was like.

Although it was initially difficult since I was new to the experience, my supervisors were very friendly and showed me where everything was, as well as how to do things step by step. "

*Keira Tay, 5 Oldham*



## Virtual Mentoring Programme (July to September)

The mentoring programme is yet another avenue for our students to learn more about a career by interacting with a mentor who is an expert in the field. The mentors provide advice, direction, and encouragement to the students as they crystallise their academic and career paths.

From July to September, 31 of our IB students had the privilege of working with mentors from various fields such as Arts, Business & Operations, Communications & Public Relations, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Financial Services, Legal, Medical, Sales & Marketing and Technology. Through the interactions, our students gained many insights into the different career paths and benefitted greatly from the advice and guidance provided by their mentors.

## Upcoming Virtual Mentoring Programme (October to December)

More mentors are participating in our Mentoring Programme. Students will have the chance to learn and interact with their mentor in the following fields:

| Available Opportunities        |
|--------------------------------|
| Arts                           |
| Business/Operations/Finance    |
| Communication/Public Relations |
| Early Childhood Education      |
| Engineering                    |
| Entrepreneurship               |
| Legal                          |
| Medicine                       |
| Physiotherapy                  |
| Sales & Marketing              |
| Social Services                |
| Technology                     |

Year 5 students who are Interested are to email Ms Yap at [linlin.yap@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:linlin.yap@acsinternational.edu.sg) by 6 October.

### Student Reflections



Published with permission from Pangdemonium Theatre Company Ltd: Mr Crispian Chan (above, left)

My mentor gave me opportunities that I wouldn't have the chance to do had I not participated in the programme. I witnessed first-hand what it takes to direct and shoot my own film, acquiring an insight into working as a professional in the performing arts industry. My time working with the creative director at Pangdemonium Theatre Company Ltd was certainly an experience like no other. I aspire to take what I have learnt in this programme and make the best use of that knowledge as I continue to create art in my studies and career!

*Nadya Zahra Amir, 6 TKK*



I enjoyed having a deep conversation with my mentor about my career path, and I could gain new information from the sharing of his experiences. I am glad that I was given the opportunity to interact with a business practitioner who gave me an insight into the industry. Overall, every session was valuable as it helped me to decide on the major that I would like to study in university. This mentoring programme has encouraged me to work hard to achieve my dream goals.

*Kim Yeonwoo, 6 Thoburn*

## CAMPUS NEWS

### Official Opening of the Green Roof

After two years of labour, the Green Roof was officially open on 1 October by our Chairman, Mr Tan Wah Thong. It was a quiet ceremony attended by our Principal, Mr Kinch, staff and student volunteers of the garden.

After the ribbon cutting and the official plaque unveiling by Mr Tan, the Green Roof tour began with the fruits and flowers as the main focus. Students and staff were available to share their experiences about working on the Green Roof. The event ended with an award presented to Mr Gregory Poo, the chief "staff gardener" for his tireless work daily before the crack of dawn to tend to the plants.

The Green Roof was an idea borne out of a vision for a greener and more sustainable future for the community. The twin idea of building a sustainable future as well as providing learning opportunities for our students came to fruition with the establishment of the Green Roof. It also received grants and support from NParks to keep it flourishing.

Headed by Mrs Ivy Teo, Mdm Koh Leng Khim and Mdm Koh Leng Leng, the Green Roof soon saw staff volunteers working on a roster, making time to care for and tend to the plants on a daily basis. The Green Roof also provides learning opportunities for the students in their CAS projects and experiences and co-curricular experiences.



**SPORTS NEWS**

## Year 2 Student Wins Tennis Championship

The school congratulates Eldon Lee (2 Thoburn) in winning the STA Junior National Pesta Sukan Tennis Championship 2021 U16 Doubles Event held in September, at the age of 14. He won the U14 event in March 2020 when he was 13. We wish him all the best in his future sport endeavours.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

| October  | Event  |
|----------|--|
| 4-8      | Wellness Week  |
| 6        | Last School Day for Year 6                               |
| 8        | Chapel 08:00-08:35                                       |
| 13       | Year 5 Internal End-of-Year Exams begin                  |
| 15       | Chapel 08:00-08:35<br>Middle Division Study Leave begins |
| 18       | Junior Division Study Leave begins                       |
| 22       | Junior Division Study Leave begins                       |
| 25       | Junior Division Internal End-of-Year Exams begin         |
| 29       | Last Day of Internal End-of-Year Exams                   |
| November | Event  |
| 1        | Normal Timetable resumes                                 |

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- Colorado State University
- Dallas Baptist University
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- Marymount Manhattan College
- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences (MCPHS University)
- Miami University
- Montana State University
- New England College
- Ohio State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Pace University
- Plymouth State University
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Seattle Pacific University
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- Stony Brook University
- University at Buffalo
- University of Bridgeport
- University of California Irvine
- University of Iowa
- University of Kentucky
- University of Maine
- University of Wisconsin La Crosse

Pre-register today@ [www.aeotour.com/virtual-school-fair/](http://www.aeotour.com/virtual-school-fair/)



### Virtual Student Fair:

Saturday, 2 October, 11pm-1am EDT  
(Asia time: Sunday, 3 October, mid-day)

### Student Virtual Fair:

Thursday, 28 October, 8am-10am EDT  
(Asia time: Thursday, 28 October evening)

### U.S. Community College Virtual Event:

Friday, 19 November, 11pm-1am EST  
(Asia time: Saturday, 20 November, mid-day)

How to register:

Students: <https://aeotour.com/students/>



**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).

#### Senior Leadership Team



*Mr Gavin Kinch*  
**Principal**



*Mrs Tan Siew Hoon*  
**Vice-Principal**



*Mr Christopher Hayward*  
**Vice-Principal**



*Dr Kristopher Achter*  
**Vice-Principal**



## ACS (International) Admissions Seminars for 2022

### Pre PSLE Seminars

1 October, 2pm

RSVP [admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg)

### Post PSLE Seminars

24 November, 2pm & 4pm

25 November, 9am & 2pm

26 November, 9am & 2pm

27 November, 9am

RSVP [admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg)

Seminars will be held on Campus with school tours where possible. Virtual seminars and tours will be organized instead if there are social gathering restrictions.

**Attendance is limited and by reservations only.**

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

For earlier appointments, please contact Joseph Ng or Serene Lim at +65 6472 1477 or [admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg)