



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER



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### Dear Parents, Students and Friends

Which is more important - Christmas or Easter? In other words, is the birth of Christ or the death of Christ more important? It is a bit like the chicken and egg riddle – which came first, the chicken or the egg? Theologically, it could be argued that the death of Christ is the most important as it is through Christ's sacrifice and death on the cross involving His shedding of blood that we have the forgiveness of sins and life after death. Good Friday is the day that we remember Jesus' supreme sacrifice.

In John 15: 12 – 13 Jesus says: *'My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.'*

The love referred to here is translated from the Greek word *agape* – meaning selfless or sacrificial love. This verse tells us that sacrificial love to others is a command. Showing love to others is not always easy – especially to those who have hurt us in some way or those we simply don't have a strong or good relationship with. However, we are commanded to show sacrificial love to others. Agape love requires conscious thought and decision-making. This is love of the head not the heart.

The other three Greek words for love are of the heart not the head. As well as *agape* the Greeks refer to *eros*, *phileo* and *storge* love. *Eros* means sexual love, *storge* is family love and *phileo* is friendship love. These three types of love are of the heart and have feelings and emotion as their base. Jesus' command to us to love one another relates to agape love, not the other three. This is particularly important in schools where we encourage the adage 'study now, relationships later' and discourage PDAs (public displays of affection)!

Leading up to Good Friday next week, all ACS schools participate in Religious Emphasis Week. At ACS (International) this involves all staff and students attending a half hour Chapel service on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 8.00am. The Youth for Christ Drama group will be performing on the Wednesday morning.

This weekend we are holding our annual Open House on Saturday 8 April starting at 9.00am. We thank the staff and students involved in this important day and we welcome all prospective parents, students, family friends and grandparents (!) to see some of the many good things that the school has to offer.

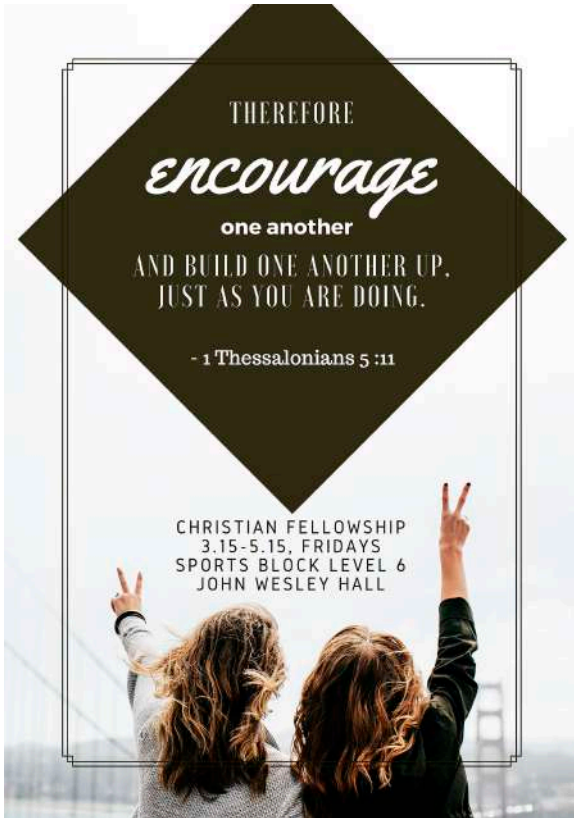
**Rob Burrough**

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**DID YOU KNOW ?**

*When hippos are upset,  
their sweat turns red.*

## CHRISTIAN MINISTRY NEWS



## ACS (International) Christian Fellowship

The Christian Fellowship (CF) exists to draw all Christian students of ACS (International) to worship and fellowship together as one body of Christ. We also welcome those who are open to finding out more about Jesus and the Christian faith.



We meet every Friday at Level 6 of the Sports Block from 3.15pm to 5.15pm. Food and refreshments are provided and we look forward to meeting you!

As Term 1 came to an end, the CF went to d'Good Café to enjoy a good time of fellowship, fun and good food. Do look out for our outing in Term 2!



## NOTICES

### Years 1 - 5 2018

#### Direct School Admission Tests

Our school Admissions tests for enrolment in 2018 are held every Monday from 17 April and involve written tests in English and Mathematics (and Science for some year levels) plus an on-line Non-Verbal Reasoning test and an interview with a senior member of staff. We try to advise parents of the outcome within a week of sitting the assessments.

Please see Mr Joseph Ng or Mrs Steph Hanrahan in Admissions or email [admission@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:admission@acsinternational.edu.sg) for further information.

### Religious Emphasis Week

As part of the lead up to Easter the whole school will be attending three special Chapel services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 10, 11, and 12 April starting at 8.00am. All students are asked to report directly to the Sports Hall by 8.00am for roll call. Chapel will finish in time for the regular Period 1 start at 8.45am.

Please note the compulsory start time of 8.00am on the Tuesday.

### iParent and iStudent App

We apologise for the service disruption in late March due to system upgrading.

As a result, users need to uninstall the iParent and iStudent app and reinstall it to make sure that the app is up to date and working properly.

The school code is ACS, and the login details are the same as that is used for the parent and pupil portals.

### Domain Name Change

The school has recently changed our domain name to better reflect our status as an educational institution. Due to this, the URLs of our [School Website](http://www.acsinternational.edu.sg), [Intranet](https://intranet.acsinternational.edu.sg), [Parent Portal](https://parents.acsinternational.edu.sg), and [Student Portal](https://pupils.acsinternational.edu.sg) have been changed.

The new URLs are as follows:

School Website : <http://www.acsinternational.edu.sg>  
 School Intranet : <https://intranet.acsinternational.edu.sg>  
 Parent portal : <https://parents.acsinternational.edu.sg>  
 Student portal : <https://pupils.acsinternational.edu.sg>

It is necessary for anyone who uses browser shortcuts to update them to the new .edu.sg domain name.



## STAFF NEWS

We welcome Miss Sarah Tan to a fixed term Geography position whilst Mr Chia Choong Kiat is Acting Vice Principal. Miss Tan joins us following her degree at Cambridge and research at NUS.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NEWS

### Group Hospital and Surgical Insurance for International Students

All our international students on student passes are all covered with international insurance for inpatient expenses!

As explained in emails sent out by Mr Burrough on a number of occasions, our school policy of 2017 is that all international students should have international insurance coverage. Except for those who have provided copies of their own personal international insurance or bought directly from Honan Insurance agency at the beginning of the year, the school has covered all students under student passes with a Group Hospital and Surgical Plan at \$200/annum. The amount will either be billed to parents or deducted from the deposit. The agent is Honan Insurance Group Asia and coverage is under AIA.

Full details of coverage benefits, claims procedures and frequently asked questions can be found in the Parents' portal under 'International Students'. Relevant information and the name list of students covered can also be found on the noticeboard outside the International Students' Pastoral Care room at SB4-01. Hard copies of these may also be obtained from Ms Stacey.

Parents, guardians, and students are highly encouraged to read through the FAQs.

International parents whose children are not under the student pass scheme but are interested in purchasing the coverage may approach the agents:

Tee Jie Xiang – [jjxiang@honan.com.sg](mailto:jjxiang@honan.com.sg)

Nancy Sin – [nancys@honan.com.sg](mailto:nancys@honan.com.sg)

### Accommodation Matters Moving out from Oldham Hall or ACS (Independent) Boarding School

Students who are currently staying in hostel accommodation but who wish to move out must follow this procedure: They must have parent approval and have to get a school notification form to pass to the hostel offices to complete the withdrawal process. The forms are available in either the General Office or in the International Students Pastoral Care (ISPPC) office. These forms need to be endorsed by Ms Stacey and must have the school stamp on it to be considered valid. This is to ensure that students' term time addresses are up to date and that they are staying at school-approved accommodation.

Students are reminded that regardless of which Year they are in, they must stay at either of the ACS boarding hostels in their first year in Singapore.

### Moving Into Homestays

All students are reminded that if they wish to change accommodation and move out of hostels, they can only stay with one of the school-approved homestays.

Currently, we have 28 approved homestays in our list to fit various expectations and budgets.

A list of homestays as well as samples of homestay photos can be seen from the noticeboard outside the ISPPC office at SB4-01.





## Methodist Walk 2017

On 25 March students from 15 Singapore Methodist schools gathered bright and early for the biennial fundraising Methodist Walk at ACJC.

The walk was a fantastic opportunity for the schools to come together, and as the schools gathered on the field, our school's Contemporary Band provided the entertainment. The atmosphere was really positive throughout; both staff and students were in good spirits despite the hot weather. After the walk, the students enjoyed drinks and ice cream, happy in the knowledge that the walk was over and that their fundraising efforts were worth it.

*Ms Kerry Sibson  
(Teacher of PE)*

*The funds raised from the Methodist Walk will go towards funding great school programmes. We would like to take this opportunity to give thanks for the generosity of the donors, as well as to the following staff: Ms Kerry Sibson for overseeing our school's involvement in the Methodist Walk, and Ms Hilda Toh, Ms Jem San Miguel, and Mr Joel Zhou who worked hard with the Contemporary Band for their performance to be a success.*



## STUDENT SUCCESSES

### ACS (International) partners with World Vision

Last year our Student Ambassadors spent months planning and running an extensive range of fundraising activities, including Choice to Run in July 2016 (see our August 2016 issue). Their aim was to raise funds for World Vision to help fight hunger and malnutrition in Tien Lu, Vietnam.

We are pleased to share the news of the fruits of their labours and of donors' generosity. World Vision recently published a report which can be viewed at the link below to see what the funds raised went towards.

<https://www.facebook.com/ACSInternationalSingapore/photos/pcb.1636867692995226/1636863066329022/?type=3>



*Our Student Ambassadors | World Vision | Tien Lu Vietnam*

### 2nd Runner Up at Asian Dreamerz Kids

On 18 March student Shermaine Saw (1 LSG) participated in the first Asian Dreamerz Kids competition. Asian Dreamerz Kids is an event organized by the Asia organisers (APIC) of the world's biggest amateur singing competition, Karaoke World Championships Asia.



This competition gathered young singers from across Asia to showcase their talents. The contestants were mainly from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. They had to perform one song in English and another in their mother tongue – not an easy feat. Shermaine was one of 12 finalists selected from a pool of 80 young singers. She emerged as second runner up, despite the stiff competition.

Congratulations Shermaine on your achievement.





## Singapore Model UN

Over the March break ACS (International) students from the ENVOY CCA attended the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Singapore Model UN (SIMUN) Conference held at Lycée Français de Singapour. After an insightful opening speech about the pitfalls of diplomatic negotiation by His Excellency Marc Abensour, the French Ambassador, our students busied themselves in the task of lobbying, debating and voting for resolutions.

This year, ACS (International) students represented four countries: Syria, South Africa, Kenya and Angola. Well done to all new students who joined their first MUN conference, and congratulations to Matthew Tan (6 SVM) for receiving the Best Delegate award for his contribution to the Advisory Panel on the Question of reform of the Security Council (APQ).



*SIMUN Opening Ceremony courtesy of Lycée Français de Singapour*



## National Story Challenge

On 4 March two teams were sent to take part in the semi-finals of the National Story Challenge organized by *The Theatre Practice*, a theatre company that promotes local theatre and cultural history. These teams comprised the following students:

- Caelan Chiang Kye-Feng
- Zachary Ng Jun Hng
- Gouw Bei Ni Nicole
- Clarisse Lim Jia-Yi
- Benjamin Ng Yi Hern
- Joel Liow Xuan Hao
- Bethel Loke Hui Ting
- Vivian Hu Xin Hui

These are Year two students who are currently studying Chinese drama once a week during curriculum time. They did not have any drama background prior to this, but as this competition places more emphasis on creativity and story-telling, we saw this as an opportunity for the students to apply their Chinese on stage and to interact with students from other schools. Amongst their competitors were students from Catholic High, CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' and Chung Cheng High.



Although we did not get into the finals, I am heartened to report that the students are very excited about the opportunity to compete, and took this in good spirit. We will be back next year!

*Mdm Koh Leng Leng  
(Chinese Teacher)*

## Student Reflection

When we were picked to represent our school in the National Story Challenge, I was thrilled and honoured. We went through 4 training workshops with our Chinese drama teacher Ms Melissa Leung to prepare for the Challenge.

On the day of the competition, we arrived at ITE Central Campus to find that representatives from other schools had already arrived, and were hard at work practising. This was the first time that we were taking part in such a competition, so naturally we felt terribly nervous. The competition began. Some of the performances were humorous, whilst others exhibited a high level of fluency in their expression, and this made me more nervous. When our teacher saw this, she told us, "Just give your best and don't worry about the results. Treat this as a learning experience."



The title that we drew was an idiom: "一落千丈". We were anxious as we did not know what it meant. Finally, we decided to interpret it by splitting the idiom into four words and did a literal word by word interpretation. We were given 15 minutes to prepare, and in the last three minutes, the organisers added another condition: a fairy and a dog had to appear in our performance. We had to think quickly to incorporate a fairy and a dog into our story! When it was our turn, my heart was beating wildly when we stood in front of a packed theatre. But I knew my teacher and my friends were cheering for me so I felt more assured. I softly told my friends, "Don't worry, let's do our best." At the end of our performance, there was much laughter and applause from the audience, which made us feel very relieved.

We did not get into the finals this time, but we had done our best, and we had the chance to watch and learn from the performances of the other teams. This experience has taught me the importance of team work and that we should give it our all and not panic, nor should we use "winning" or "losing" as a measure of success.

*Gouw Bei Ni Nicole (2 SVM)*

*Note: 一落千丈 is a figurative way of describing a drastic decline.*





## Student Leaders Camp 2017

The Student Leaders Camp on 25 March kicked off at FOCUS in Sentosa. The blue skies promised a day wrought with much excitement and filled with potential challenges.

As the day began, student leaders from each House gathered at school, looking forward to a day of self-discovery.

When we arrived at FOCUS Sentosa, we split into our Houses to start a rotation of activities. One of the team building activities was an Amazing Race which required us to visit the different beaches on Sentosa to complete the task set before us. This task required us to work as a team, an important leadership skill. By learning how to make the most of our abilities, we would be a more efficient team, something that we can apply to school life in the future.



After lunch, it was our turn to attempt the Team Challenge Hourglass (TCH). This was a high-elements course made of four components. There were three levels of different high-element courses, topped by the Flight Line (a bungee jump). This was an activity that some of us found quite nerve-wrecking due to a fear of heights, but we persevered despite our fears. The most challenging part of the course was the Flight Line, with a drop of 26m. The true challenge was not necessarily the jump, but the wait at the top. When we looked down from that height, fears began to well up within, and many of us found ourselves with sweaty palms, knocking knees, racing hearts, and an unsettled stomach. At the end, we all managed to conquer our fears to complete the course. Many of us were filled with a sense of accomplishment and relief. With the adrenaline still rushing through our veins, we looked on as our friends took on the obstacle before them, although it turned out that our well-meant shouts of encouragements generated more frustration and fear than courage for our friends.



We felt that the Students Leader Camp was a fruitful experience, as it imparted many values to us: determination, perseverance, and teamwork. I am sure that everyone there not only enjoyed the activities, but also benefited greatly from them, as the bonds we forged on this day may well stay with us throughout the rest of our lives.



My fervent wish for future editions of the SLC are that perhaps we could have more team-building activities and more time on the TCH. Here's to an even more successful Student Leaders Camp 2018!

*By Xavier Tng (5 TCT) and Natasha Li-An Gondowijojo (5 TCT)*





## Exchange Concert with Immanuel College Australia

On 29 March students from Immanuel College (Australia) came together with our students for an exchange concert. This was an exchange music programme where students from both schools performed for each other, and performed together. Despite having no time to rehearse with each other, students from both orchestras played harmoniously to produce a beautiful rendition of the Dance of the Yao. This exchange concert included students from our A Capella and String Orchestra CCAs, and the Choir and Orchestra from Immanuel College.



## Languages Faculty Job-Alike

On 1 April, the Languages Faculty organized a Job-Alike Sharing on IB A Language and Literature. This event attracted 22 teachers from 13 schools. A fruitful morning was spent listening to seasoned ACS (International) teachers Mr Zhang Youyou and Mdm Cheng Wei, and Mr Ng Teck Seng, who gave a quick overview on the curriculum and provided advice on key parts of the curriculum. Most importantly, we had the opportunity to share good practices, and were able to study real examples from the 2016 classes that achieved outstanding results in Textual analyses and Written Tasks.



The session closed with many teachers staying back for more interaction. The Languages Faculty would like to express their thanks to Mr Zhang Youyou for organizing this successful Job-Alike event.



## Theatre Project with Drama Box

On 8 March the drama department worked with a local theatre company Drama Box on a participatory drama project with 3 other Junior colleges: National Junior College, Andersen Junior College and Yishun Junior College. A total of 120 students, including our Drama CCA and IB Theatre students, participated in this wonderful opportunity to interact and discuss theatre arts with each other. This is an MOE initiative for students who are 17 and 18 years of age.





## An Exciting Trip to Alive Museum

“An exciting trip to Alive Museum” was the first event this year held by the 2<sup>nd</sup> board of International Students Committee (ISC).

Twenty two international students with Ms Stacey (International Student Pastoral Care Coordinator) and Mr Roger (Holland Village Methodist Church Christian Ministry staff) visited the Alive Museum at Suntec City. The Alive Museum is a 4D visual illusion museum, and it was quite a fun place to visit. Not only could we touch and feel the exhibits, but we could also hop into the frame and become a part of the art masterpieces thanks to the art of optical illusion.

To make the trip more interesting, the committee members held a photography competition to encourage participants to be as creative as possible when taking photos. We all enjoyed walking around and posing with our friends. It was a successful trip, and a great start to the string of international student events that have been planned by the 2<sup>nd</sup> board of ISC.

As one of the organisers I was glad to see students from different year groups with different cultural backgrounds interacting with each other and developing new friendships during the trip. We aim to bring more international students together so we can provide them with opportunities to hang out more outside of school and gain a better understanding of different cultures. We are grateful to Holland Village Methodist Church for sponsoring this event.

From March onwards, our international student representatives will be organising an activity every month. We really hope to see more people joining us and supporting us.  
Michael Chen Kangan 5 LSG.





## Ski Trip to Hakuba, Japan

Over the March holiday break 28 students and five teachers embarked on a ski trip to Hakuba, Japan. The skiing was split into morning and afternoon lessons and the students were divided into four skiing groups: two beginners groups, one intermediate group and one advanced group. Over the five days everyone made great progress with their skiing. On the last day everyone got to ride the gondola to the summit and take in the spectacular views of the Hakuba Valley before skiing down to Hakuba 47 for pizza at lunchtime. We were extremely lucky to enjoy the quiet pistes and blue skies, perfect conditions for a week in the mountains.



Highlights of the trip included; attending the Hakuba Goryu Snow Festival, eating delicious Japanese cuisine, making snowmen, having plenty of snowball fights and skiing every day! Special congratulations to; Emily, Linda, Jordan and Reuben who were all selected as the most improved skiers

within their respective groups.

The ski trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all students and staff, and we are already very excited about next year's trip which will be advertised in July, so watch this space!





## Sporting Successes at ACS (International)

Last term the school celebrated a number of sporting achievements. Events included our Sports Day, the second season of the Athletic Conference of Singapore International Schools (ACSIS), the Singapore National Age Group Championships, and the Thailand Fencing Federation MINIME series. The school is very proud of all of the student athletes and we extend a warm congratulations to each of them on their efforts and successes.

## Singapore National Rugby Training Programme

The school is pleased to announce that Tarquin Loh (3T KK) has been selected to attend the Singapore National Rugby Academy Under-15 Sevens Programme 2017 (Phase 1 Training Programme). Congratulations Tarquin.

## Fencing

In February, Derek Hoi Chon Hei participated in the 3rd Thailand Fencing Federation MINIME Series in Bangkok. He competed in the under-12 Boys Foil event and achieved 5th place. This was an international event where athletes from Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Korea, and Japan competed.



## School Sports Day

Students gathered at Clementi Stadium on 7 March to compete in Inter-House Track and Field events. This was the first year with three Divisions competing - therefore all the timings recorded for Junior Division events have been considered as records. (Records are indicated by \*)





Event	Winner (House/Student)		
	Junior Division	Middle Division	Senior Division
4x100M Boys A String:	THO*	TKK*	CKS*
4x 100M Girls A String:	CKS*	CKS	SVM
4x 100M Boys B String:	-	SVM	GHK
4x 100M Girls B String:	-	LSG	TKK
8x50M:	OLD*	-	-
100M A Boys:	SVM Jin Kawaso*	CKS Mike Chun Mingyu*	CKS Brian Hawkes*
100M A Girls:	CKS Yasumi Sakaide*	LSG Tricia Pang	GHK Angelia Gan
100M B Boys:	TKK Rhys Dai*	SVM William Jang	SVM Robin Wu
100M B Girls:	GHK Hannah Sin*	TCT Nicole Chung	TCT Shawnia Seah
200M Boys:	THO Josiah Lim*	GHK Peter Kim	CKS Michael Lim
200M Girls:	TKK Sonali Rose Koura*	LSG Judith Ho	TKK Kathleen Teo
300M Boys:	LSG Danila Glizin*	-	-
300M Girls:	GHK Chen Leyi*	-	-
400M Boys	-	THO Junyeop Lee	TKK Zee Zhi Heng
400M Girls	-	CKS Camille Damas*	LSG Wong Yu Wen
800M Boys:	THO Shaun Teo*	TKK Yokesh Kandasamy*	TKK Sean Phang
800M Girls:	TKK Chantel Chesney*	TKK Cheyenne Chesney	GHK Zoe Wang Yi Wen
1500M Boys:	SVM Suriya Sangsermsap*	TKK Jasper Van Selm	THO Daren Yuen*
1500M Girls:	THO Madeline Lye*	GHK Choe Tze Ling Kaylene	TCT Kelly Lee*

High Jump Boys:	GHK Caelan Chiang*	TKK Li Yen Ter	GHK Javen Lai*
High Jump Girls:	GHK Zhang Siting*	THO Linda Chen	SVM Abigail Tan
Long Jump Boys:	SVM Dhiman Roy*	TCT Wang Hai Yang	TKK Poon Chee Yean
Long Jump Girls:	SVM Yasmin Daruwalla*	OLD Jimin Yoo	LSG Megan Low
Shot Putt Boys:	CKS Park Byung - Joon*	TCT Joshua Lee	THO Ng Kee Yen
Shot Putt Girls:	SVM Ho Khai Ling*	GHK Hu Jie	LSG Nguyen Vinh Phuong Chan

The final rankings are as follows:

**Junior Division** 1st place: THO  
2nd place: SVM  
3rd place: GHK and TKK

**Middle Division** 1st place: LSG  
2nd place: TKK  
3rd place: CKS

**Senior Division** 1st place: THO  
2nd place: CKS  
3rd place: TKK

**Overall** (from 1st place): THO, TKK, CKS, GHK, LSG < SVM, TCT, OLD



## ACSIS Achievements

Category	Ranking
14U Boys Volleyball (Div 1)	5th
14U Girls Volleyball (Div 2)	Winners
14U Boys Football (Div 1)	7th
14U Netball B Team (Div 3)	5th
14U Netball A Team (Div 2)	2nd
16U Boys Basketball (Div 2)	3rd
16U Boys Rugby (Div 2)	4th
19U Boys Tennis (Div 2)	Winners
19U Girls Tennis (Div 2)	2nd
19U Boys Basketball (Div 2)	2nd
19U Girls Touch (Div 2)	4th



ACSIS 14U Girls Volleyball Team



ACSIS 19U Boys Tennis Team

## Swimming

On 14 – 19 March Charity Lien (2 LSG) competed in the Singapore National Age Group (SNAG) Swimming Championships 2017. She participated in several events and achieved the following awards in the 13 – 14 year old category:

Event	Rank (13 – 14 y/o category)	Rank (Across all age groups nationally)	
		Rank	Rank
50m Breaststroke	2nd		
100m Breaststroke	1st	3rd	
200m Breaststroke		1st	2nd
100m Backstroke		2nd	
100m Butterfly		3rd	
200m Individual Medley		2nd	4th
Event		Rank (All ages category)	
100m Breaststroke		3rd	
200m Breaststroke		2nd	

As a result of her dedication Charity has retained her No.1 title for both the girls' 100m and 400m breaststroke events for the 13 – 14 year old girls category in Singapore.

Kai Ang (2 OLD) and Madeline Lye (2 THO) also participated in SNAG 2017. The results of their events are available on the Singapore Swimming Association website.

All three students have trained diligently to participate in this championship, and we commend them on their tenacity – it is not easy to balance schoolwork and training for competitions. As a school, we give thanks to the Lord for Charity, Kai, and Madeline for their courage, endurance, and strength. We pray that they will continue to be gracious in victory and defeat, and grow from strength to strength – a prayer that we make also for all of the students in our school.



Charity Lien  
Singapore National Age Group Swimming Championships 2017  
(Photo credit: Singapore Swimming Association)





## Alumni Catch Up

**\*Name:** Victoria Bhojwani Cunningham

**\*House:** TKK

**\*Year graduated:** 2007

**\*Years spent at ACS (International):** 2

**Q: What are you doing now?** I am currently the Director of Marketing & PR (Asia Pacific) For Spartan Race – The world's largest obstacle race and endurance brand.

**Q: Could you share some of your journey from your ACS days to the present time with us?**

Get ready for a whirlwind of a story!

After graduating from ACS (International), I initially attended the New York Film Academy (NYFA) branch in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Then I ended up in Cebu, Philippines studying and working in the International Academy of Film and Television in 2009. I returned to Singapore where I interned in a production company - Moving Bits. Moving Bits took me on as an assistant producer and I spent 2010 working with them to produce commercials for establishments like SMRT, Resorts World, and Far East Organisation.

In 2011, I was offered a partial scholarship to the University of Tasmania for a Bachelor's Degree in Dramatic Arts. During one of my University Semester holidays, I was hired as a door host at a small club in Boat Quay. My job was to stamp entry stamps, and convince patrons to buy bottles to secure a VIP table. My boss noticed my flair for marketing and put me in charge of social media instead. I returned to Tasmania where I graduated, got married, had a baby, and returned to Singapore with my family a year or so later, where the same boss who hired me to work in his club gave me the opportunity to work as a Business Development Manager in his digital marketing startup. He trained me from the ground up. After a year or so with him I was offered a few other opportunities. His social client – Spartan Race, was looking for an in-house social person and he had set up an interview for me! I jumped at the chance, and that weekend I met the Marketing Director (at that time) and Joe DeSena, the CEO and Founder of Spartan Race at his house for an interview. And we had the interview in the middle of a birthday pool party. I was so overdressed in full corporate wear, while they were in shorts and t-shirts. They offered me the job on the spot, so I served my last few days with my old boss and moved on. Three months after joining, the Marketing Director left, and I stepped into her position. 2 years and 2 promotions later, here I am!



**Q: What are your best memories at ACS?** Definitely the people. At that time the school population was very small, and everyone pretty much knew everyone.

**Q: How has your time at ACS (International) shaped you?** To be completely honest, during my time at ACS, I wasn't serious about school work. I had no clue what career path I wanted to undertake. However ACS did give me a lot of opportunity to network with students from many high profile families in Singapore (which I didn't fully realize at the time).

**Q: What are your plans for the near future?** I have no idea. Life is full of surprises, I'm going to take it as it comes.

**Q: What advice do you have for your juniors at ACS?** You don't always have to be a doctor or lawyer or accountant to be considered a success. Take the road less trodden if it's what you want to do. Be brave, expose yourself to new things. Most importantly be kind, don't judge. I wasn't the kindest nor nicest person during my time in ACS, and after leaving school, I realized that a little bit of kindness goes a long way. Finally, never, never, never shy away from hard work. For every one who has told me that I just got "lucky". Maybe so, but I worked extremely hard every single step of the way. It's one thing to say luck got you somewhere. It's another thing to be able to maintain your position and work your way up.



## Annual Higher Education Fair

The Annual Higher Education Fair 2017 on Monday 3 April was the biggest held at ACS (International) so far, with 42 participating institutions and organizations.

All the public universities from Singapore were represented. Students, parents and guardians had the opportunity to discuss their education plans and pathways with the various representatives.

Apart from the local Institutions, representatives from foreign universities were also present to distribute their prospectuses and offer in-depth information. SAT/ACT Preparation companies were also present; many offered short quizzes on SAT/ACT to students as a trial run. Many younger students were also eager to find out more about potential options in the future; and some were also checking out courses with the Singapore and Temasek Polytechnic representatives.

Parents commented that it was really convenient for them as they got to engage many different tertiary representatives all under one roof. They were also happy to be able to get more information on the entry requirements and scholarships.

The more popular booths were those representing the local universities, the British Council representing UK universities, the USA Education Booth, the DAAD (Study in Germany) booth, and the IDP Singapore (an overseas education consultant).



The following Institutions/Organizations participated:

- National University of Singapore
- Nanyang Technological University
- Singapore Management University
- Singapore University of Technology and Design
- Singapore Institute of Technology
- Yale-NUS Singapore
- SIM Global Education
- Singapore Polytechnic
- Temasek Polytechnic
- Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA)
- LaSalle College of the Arts Singapore
- Shatec (Singapore Hotel and Tourism Edu. Centre)
- British Council Singapore (Study in the UK)
- University of Warwick
- University of Southampton (Malaysia campus)
- IDP Singapore (Study in Australia)
- The University of Queensland
- Curtin Singapore
- James Cook University (Singapore Campus)
- International Medical University Malaysia (IMU)
- Asia Business and Education (Study in New Zealand)
- Knowledge Intellegentia Enterprise Pte Ltd – (Study in New Zealand)
- DAAD (Study in Germany)
- TUM Asia (German Institute of Science and Technology)
- USEIC (Study in the USA)
- Education USA (Study in the USA)
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Asia
- DigiPen Institute of Technology Singapore
- Study in Canada
- Essec Business School
- Swiss Education Group
- Les Roches & Glion School of Hospitality
- Spark Prep (SAT, ACT)
- Testtakers Singapore (SAT, ACT)
- ICON – The Test Preparation Specialist
- TestRoker (SAT, ACT)
- Kaplan Singapore
- SP Jain School of Global Management Singapore
- IE University
- UCAM - Universidad Católica San Antonio de Murcia (Spain)
- SNFC (Singapore National Co-operative Federation)





## UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL	EVENT
08	• 08:30 - 12:30 - Open House
10	• 08:00 - 08:40 - Religious Emphasis Week • 11:45 - 12:45 - Northeastern University visit • 15:05 - 15:45 - Year 6 PEAKS Career Guidance Seminar
14	• Good Friday (Public Holiday)
18	• 11:45 - 12:45 - University of Southern California visit
20	• 11:45 - 12:45 - New York University Abu Dhabi visit • 11:45 - 12:45 - University of Bradford visit
21	• 08:30 - ACS Combined Prayer Meeting - ACS Primary
27	• 08:00 - 09:45 - Student Leadership Investiture
29	• All Day - School Student Leaders Camp
MAY	EVENT
01	• Labour Day (Public Holiday)

## Upcoming PSP Events

The Parent School partners warmly invite you to join them at these upcoming events. Please refer to the eBlast sent to parents via ISAMS for more details, including the programme for each of these events. We look forward to seeing you there!

**PSP Coffee Morning and Dialogue Session with the Principal**

**Date:** Thursday 20 April 2017

**Time:** 8am - 10:30am

**Venue:** Wesley Hall, 6th Floor, Sports Block, ACS (International)  
RSVP to [acspsp.net@gmail.com](mailto:acspsp.net@gmail.com) by **Tuesday 18 April**.

Please include your name, the year your child/ward is in as well as any queries you may have for the Principal.

## Annual PSP Bonding Session

One of our favourite activities in the PSP annual calendar is the Bonding Session. In recent years, we have enjoyed getting to know everyone better while admiring the floral majesty of Gardens by the Bay, tossing pratas during Prata Journey and whipping up a culinary storm at Palate Sensations. This year, we would love for you to join us as we explore and learn more about farming in the quiet Kranji countryside.

**Date:** Friday 28 April 2017

**Time:** 8.00am - 2.00pm

**Venue:** ACS (International), General Office Conference Room

**Cost:** SGD 25 per person

RSVP by **21 April 2017** to [acspsp.net@gmail.com](mailto:acspsp.net@gmail.com).

## School Production

ACS (International) proudly presents  
Roald Dahl's  
**The Witches**  
Adapted for the stage by David Wood

**Date**  
11-13 May 2017, 7 pm

**Tickets**  
Youth: \$5 (Thurs & Sat)  
\$10 (Fri)  
Adults: \$10 (Thurs)  
\$20 (Fri & Sat)

**Venue**  
Oldham Chapel  
Doors open at 6:30pm

**For tickets**  
[helen.baker@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:helen.baker@acsinternational.edu.sg)

ACS (International) presents our Annual Musical Production: Roald Dahl's *The Witches*! If you enjoyed last year's production of *Into the Woods*, you will love this one!

Welcome to the wonderful world of Roald Dahl, one of the best loved children's writers in English literature! Join the cast and crew of ACS (International) as we follow the adventures of Arthur, our young hero. Who, travelling with his devoted grandmama, unwittingly stumbles into the middle of the child-hating witches and their dastardly plans.

Adapted for the stage by David Wood, this classic heart-warming fantasy is a must-see for anyone who has ever read and loved a Roald Dahl book ... or for anyone who has yet to have that pleasure!

For tickets, please contact Ms Helen Baker at [helenbaker@acsinternational.edu.sg](mailto:helenbaker@acsinternational.edu.sg).

(Congratulations to Chia Yun Wong (4 TTK) on winning our poster design competition - the final poster design was based on her submission. Well done!)



## Netball Fundraiser

In the March issue of our newsletter, we announced a fundraising initiative called "Give to Change" in partnership with the organisation Children of Mother Earth (CoME). <https://intranet.acsinternational.edu.sg/api/news/?id=164>

To that end, the students are holding a Netball tournament to raise funds to cover the cost of shipping donated items to India. Students can sign up to play in the tournament, or get involved as a volunteer to help run the tournament.

To sign up, simply scan the QR codes on the poster here. Posters can also be found around the school.

## University Visits (In School)

**Northeastern University**  
**Monday , 10 April**  
 11.45 am – 12.45 pm  
 Booth in the School Canteen



**University of Southern California**  
**Tuesday , 18 April**  
 11.45 am – 12.45 pm  
 Booth in the School Canteen

**University of Bradford**  
**Thursday , 20 April**  
 11.45 am – 12.45 pm  
 Booth in the School Canteen



**New York University Abu Dhabi**  
**Thursday , 20 April**  
 11.45 am – 12.45 pm  
 Booth in the School Canteen

**namaste netball**

**13th April 2017**  
**3:30 PM – 7:00 PM**  
 ACS International School Sports Hall, Tennis Court, Library Court  
 To raise funds for the shipping of donated items

**Categories:**  
**Full girls team of 12**  
 - Minimum of 10 players  
**Mixed team of 12**  
 - Min 2 guys on court  
 - Minimum of 10 players

**Netball team sign ups**  
 \$12 per person inclusive of a tournament pack  
 10-12 – players per team (with 7 on court)

**Volunteers**  
 Score and timekeeping  
 Runners  
 Anyone can volunteer (except yr. 6s)

**Sign ups close on the 8th of April, 3:30 pm**  
 Follow us on Instagram @give\_to\_change for updates

Give to Change  
 In Collaboration with CoME

QR codes for sign-ups and volunteers.

# NIGHT HUNT

For International Students

**Marina Bay Sands**      **Gardens by the Bay**

**Highlights of the Day**

- Amazing Race and Games
- Photo Quizzes and Competitions
- Food Vouchers for the WINNERS
- Limited to the first 80 sign-ups
- PRICE: FREE!!!!!!

**Time**  
 21st April, 2017  
 18:30-22:00  
 One Way Transport from school at 18:45

**Venue**  
 Marina Bay Sands + Gardens by the Bay

**Signing Up**  
 Consent form will be available in the General Office by 10 April

Organised by the ACS (International) Committee





### *Building Through Belief, this school of choice provides:*

- \* Exceptional examination results; very strong value added achievement; and an all-round holistic education
- \* 50:50 mix of local and international teachers who uphold the dual Methodist ethos and ACS heritage
- \* Small class sizes with overall student : teacher ratio of 8.7 : 1
- \* 40 different CCAs – 16 Sporting; 12 Visual and Performing Arts; 12 Special Interest Groups
- \* 25+ overseas trips per year
- \* Over 200 formal student leadership positions
- \* Scholarships for 4 Singaporeans to undertake the IB Diploma programme

# OPEN HOUSE

## Saturday 8 April 2017

9:00am

*Principal's Address*

9:30am – 12:00pm

*School tours & presentations by staff & students*

Oldham Chapel, ACS (International)

61 Jalan Hitam Manis, Singapore 278475

*For more information, please contact Joseph Ng or Stephanie Hanrahan at +65 6472 1477 or [admission@acsinternational.com.sg](mailto:admission@acsinternational.com.sg)*



Mr Rob Burrough  
Principal



Mrs Tan Siew Hoon  
Vice Principal



Mr Gavin Kinch  
Vice Principal

ACS  
(International)  
Singapore

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

*What the Parents say ...*

*"We value the school's deep heritage and strong values ... their holistic approach provides an encouraging learning environment."* – Winnie Cruz-Ding

*"Our daughter has become a person that we feel is ready for the world."*

– Keith and Nancy Tan

*"The different teaching methods, the high quality of teaching, the promotion of individual character and personality, and the obvious enjoyment of school ... made our daughter's transfer most worthwhile."*

– Vincent and Germaine Leong

*"We love the smaller class sizes ... and the many approachable, friendly, passionate, and dedicated teachers."* – Cecilia Chau

### *Achievements include:*

- Top students achieved 45 / 45 perfect score in IB Diploma in each of the past two years.
- 17 Top of the World awards in IGCSE examinations over each of the past seven years
- Pathway to strong universities: PSLE and Singapore GCE 'O' level students achieve outstanding value-added examination results for the IB Diploma
- Students accepted to Oxford and Cambridge universities for the past eight years
- Admissions to top universities in the UK, US, Australia and Singapore
- Successes at national level this past year in Archery; Touch Rugby; Cycling; Swimming; Chinese Drama; Debating; Fencing; Football; Golf; String Orchestra; Taekwondo; Volleyball; Wushu.

