



## ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER



## IN THIS ISSUE

### Dear Parents, Students and Friends

The school year has now finished following the recent Speech Day and Graduation ceremonies. Both ceremonies were high quality events and enabled us to recognise some of the many student successes this year. Our congratulations to all prize winners and our thanks to the Guests of Honour for their presence and contributions. Mr Christopher Ong, an ACS Old Boy, Lay Leader in the Holland Village Methodist Church and a Senior Director and Deputy Public Prosecutor in the Attorney-General's Chambers of Singapore, spoke at Speech Day about his time at ACS and encouraged the students to never forget their roots and always aim to reach their potential in all areas of life. For Year 6 Graduation the Guest of Honour, Prof. Thomas Magnanti, President of Singapore University of Technology and Design, spoke about changes and the impact of technology in today's world and liberally used cutting edge examples to illustrate his points.

At this time of the year everyone is starting to prepare for Christmas. Christmas lights and decorations are going up all over the city, and people are looking forward to holidays and sharing presents. The festive season is upon us! Of course, we should never forget the 'reason for the season', celebrated by Christians to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas comes from 'Christ's-mass' - a ceremony and celebration in "memorial of the Lord's Death and Resurrection". Jesus is recognised by many religions as a prophet or a god, and for Christians as the Son of God. Christmas is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus who was, and is, God's gift to us. When we give gifts at Christmas, the reason behind the giving is in remembrance of God's gift – Jesus Christ.

For many, Christmas is not only the 'reason for the season' but also a time of celebration with family, and an opportunity to share gifts. At the end of the academic year it is also a time for everyone to rest and recharge batteries after the busy-ness of all that was achieved in 2017. We wish everyone an enjoyable and relaxing holiday with friends and family, safe travels, and we look forward to another great year in 2018.

Best wishes

**Rob Burrough**

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*"When they saw the star,  
they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy"*

Matthew 2:10



## STAFF NEWS

At the end of the year we farewelled the following staff. Mr Damien Chiang (HSM and Mathematics) leaves for a senior leadership post in Moscow; Mr Nick Hanrahan (History and IIE Coordinator) and Mrs Stef Hanrahan (Admissions) return to Australia; Ms Grace Chui (Mathematics) leaves for a promoted post in an MoE school; Ms Julie Whittaker returns to family in Australia; Mr Amal Kiran (Humanities) and Mr Mak Chee Keong (Science) finish their contracts; and Mr Joel Zhou (Music Technician) leaves to explore other interests.

We thank each one of these staff members for their strong contribution to ACS (International) and its students, and we wish them well for the future.

New staff appointments will be announced in the first newsletter of the New Year.

## National Champions...again!!

Our staff football team competed in the Inter-JC/IP/IB Staff Football Tournament that was held at Victoria Junior College (VJC). VJC won the tournament last year, on our school field, and one of the privileges of being crowned champions is the right to host the tournament.

There were 16 teams and we emerged Champions, seeing off ACJC, Raffles Institution and Hwa Chong Institute along the way. We beat VJC, in the final, after a tense penalty shootout. This is our second tournament win in 3 years.

Congratulations to the team!



### Back row (L to R):

*Mr Michael Patterson, Mr Gregory Goh, Mr Peter Thompson, Mr Billy Molloy, Mr Gavin Kinch & Mr William Donkin*

### Front row (L to R):

*Mr Leong Zhicheng, Mr S Sivarajan, Ms Gemma Adderley & Mr Francis Bell*





## PRIZE WINNERS

The following students were awarded prizes at Graduation or Speech Day:

### Speech Day Winners

#### Year 1

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Kwon Ho Sung            | Most Progress Award in 1-Bridging                     |
| Sun Lehan               | Best Overall Academic Performance Award in 1-Bridging |
| Natanya Abigail Mandagi | Most Progress Award                                   |
| Tan Cae Lyn             | Best Overall Academic Performance Award               |

#### Year 2

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Liu Zhen Rui         | Most Progress Award in Pre-IGCSE                           |
| Wang Yanze           | Best Overall Academic Performance Award in Pre-IGCSE       |
| Rohan Arora          | Geography, Most Progress Award                             |
| Rohan Kishore Buxani | Religious Studies, Best Overall Academic Performance Award |

#### Year 3

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Elijah Yeo | Most Progress Award                     |
| Chen Yili  | Best Overall Academic Performance Award |

#### Year 4

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Wang Yi Jian  | Most Progress Award in Pre-IB                     |
| Chen Xingyu   | Best Overall Academic Performance Award in Pre-IB |
| Fuji Ryoko    | Most Progress Award in FIB                        |
| Wong Chia Yun | Best Overall Academic Performance Award in FIB    |
| Chen Qianye   | Most Progress Award                               |
| Tan Liyi      | Best Overall Academic Performance Award           |

#### Year 5

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Nguyen Phuc Quyhn Chi | Most Progress Award                     |
| Chen Jiashu           | Best Overall Academic Performance Award |

#### The Arts Award

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Group Merit Award in Performing Arts      | Pro Audio Visual       |
| Group Achievement Award in the Arts       | Philharmonic Orchestra |
| Individual Achievement Award in the Arts  | Teo Kai Hui            |
| Individual Merit Award in Performing Arts | Shawnia Seah Jia Min   |
| Individual Merit Award in Performing Arts | Shermaine Saw Hui Qi   |

#### Interest Group Awards

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Group Achievement Award in Interest Groups      | Interact Club |
| Group Merit Award in Interest Groups            | Chapel Band   |
| Individual Achievement Award in Interest Groups | Kwak Yujin    |
| Individual Merit Award in Interest Groups       | Xu Jiadi      |

#### Sports Awards

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Team Achievement Award in Sports       | 19U Mixed Ultimate        |
| Team Merit Award in Sports             | 14U Girls Volleyball      |
| Individual Achievement Award in Sports | Abigail Kastono Ahadi     |
| Individual Merit Award in Sports       | Emily Elizabeth Kriebisch |

#### Colours Awards

| Gold            | Silver                  | Bronze              |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Ho Li Yi Jamie  | Zhang Ruiyang           | Audrey Teo Syn Ee   |
| Jade Chan       | Fransisca Indrawanputri | Hannah Koh Kai-Xin  |
| Park Ju-Hyun    | Sarah Darmawan          | Chang Jen Ying Jade |
| Arin Thiraswasd | Joung Jaewon            |                     |

### Year 6 Graduation



#### ACADEMIC PRIZES

|   |                           |     |
|---|---------------------------|-----|
| Theory of Knowledge (English)           | Neha Nikhil Matani        | OLD |
| Theory of Knowledge (Chinese)           | Wang Fanping              | LSG |
| Languages and Literature (English)      | Dhruv Uppal               | GHK |
| Languages and Literature (Chinese)      | Chen Wan-Yu               | SVM |
| Literature (Other Languages)            | Lee Hyeinn                | TCT |
| Language B                              | Yang Xiyan                | TKK |
| English B                               | Guo Shiyu                 | OLD |
| Languages Ab Initio SL                  | Chung Yungling Samantha   | OLD |
| Economics                               | Dhruv Uppal               | GHK |
| Business and Management                 | Liu Miaomiao              | TCT |
| Geography                               | Huang Qingxin             | THO |
| History                                 | Leow Yeong Tee            | TCT |
| Biology                                 | Chung Yungling Samantha   | OLD |
| Chemistry                               | Christian Steven Jonathan | TKK |
| Physics                                 | Yang Tzu-Hsien            | OLD |
| Sports, Exercise and Health Science     | Tam Hao Yang              | LSG |
| Psychology                              | Wong Yu Wen               | LSG |
| Mathematics HL                          | Zhu Mengqi                | GHK |
| Mathematics SL                          | Chen Kaiyuan              | CKS |
| Music                                   | Ruth Rachael Mathews      | TCT |
| Visual Arts                             | Angelia Gan Kian On       | GHK |
| Theatre                                 | Harith Muhammad Liew      | TKK |
| Most Progress Award                     | Kwun Junhyung             | TCT |
| Best Overall Academic Performance Award | Zhu Mengqi                | GHK |







## Leadership Colour Awards

### GOLD

Ariel Loh Li Xin CKS  
 Lee Hyunju CKS  
 Dhruv Uppal GHK  
 Zhu Mengqi GHK  
 Angelia Gan Kian On GHK  
 Akkshaj Sanjay Singh GHK  
 Rishi Bharadwaj Nandiraju GHK  
 Nicole Akemi Tan LSG  
 Quek Xin Zhong Joshua OLD  
 Purinat Atipas OLD  
 Lim Mun Yiang SVM  
 Matthew Tan Ju Wei SVM  
 Cho Yoonji TCT  
 Koo Jahyun TCT  
 Kelly Lee TCT  
 Evangeline Leong Li En TCT  
 Lee Hyeinn TCT  
 Ruth Rachael Mathews TCT  
 Lim Jia Jing THO  
 Erin Ching Ming Yin THO  
 Naveen Venkatanarayanan THO  
 Chan Zinwen TKK  
 Surabhi Surya TKK  
 Phang Yu Sheng TKK  
 Yang Xiyan TKK  
 Harith Muhammad Liew TKK

### SILVER

Brian Denis Hawkes CKS  
 Darren Goh Zong Xian CKS  
 Abigail Ng Li-Ann CKS  
 Jo Yoonseo CKS  
 Benjamin Tan Ting Cher GHK  
 Gu Yu GHK  
 Xu Yingzhi GHK  
 Tanya Sanjay GHK  
 Tam Hao Yang LSG  
 Lee Ann LSG  
 Wong Yu Wen LSG  
 Neha Nikhil Matani OLD  
 Leong Zhi Wei Jerrel OLD  
 Benjamin Hoon Tian Kai SVM  
 Neha Rajesh Dadlani SVM  
 Ho Khai Lie SVM  
 Xu Tianzhe SVM  
 Ewan Mok Shao-Jin SVM  
 Kwun Junhyung TCT  
 Leow Yeong Tee TCT  
 Peck Hui Wen Celyna THO  
 Nguyen Tran Thao Huong THO  
 Zee Zhi Heng TKK  
 Rupasri Veeresh TKK

### BRONZE

Koo Hyeheyon CKS  
 Noor Azira Ziara CKS  
 Binte Abdul Aziz  
 Trang Si Khai GHK  
 Nguyen Vinh Phuong Chan LSG  
 Anurag Choudary Putti OLD  
 Chen Wan-Yu SVM  
 Feng Hui SVM  
 Chea Channary THO  
 Huang Qingxin THO  
 Andy Ferdinand THO  
 Chen Yuxuan TKK  
 Christian Steven Jonathan TKK  
 Hu Yanran TKK  
 Yeong Hon Weng TKK

## CCA AWARDS

#### The Arts Co-Curricular Activities Individual Achievement Award (Chinese Drama)

Xu Tianzhe  
SVM

#### The Arts Co-Curricular Activities Individual Achievement Award (Pro Audio Visual)

Rishi Bharadwaj Nandiraju  
GHK

#### Best Sportswoman (Senior Division)

Kelly Lee  
TCT

#### The Arts Co-Curricular Activities Individual Achievement Award (Acappella)

Ruth Rachael Mathews  
TCT

#### Best Sportsman (Senior Division)

Tam Hao Yang  
LSG





## NOTICES

### Student Start Times 2018

#### Years 1 – 4, & 6

**Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 January** Pre-Orientation Admission Process for New Students

- 9am to 5pm: Admissions finalization to tidy up of fees, administration, subject choices, language options etc. as required ready for formal welcome on 4 January 2018.
- Popular Bookshop and Bibi and Baba located on site for book and uniform sales on 3, 4, 5, 8 and 22 January.

**Thursday 4 January** Orientation I Day 1 (Report to Oldham Chapel)

- 9.00am: New Students and Parents meet in Chapel for Principal's Welcome followed by New Parents Morning Tea with SLT and Admissions
- 9.30am to 3.30pm: Orientation I Day 1
- 3.30pm to 5pm: Divisional Coordinators (DCs) available for subject adjustments for new and existing students.

Popular Bookshop and Bibi and Baba located on site for book and uniform sales on 3, 4, 5, 8 and 22 January.

**Friday 5 January** Orientation I Day 2

- 8:30am to 9pm: Orientation Term 1 Day 2.
- 6.00pm: New Student and Parents Bonfire BBQ with SLT & HSMs.
- Popular Bookshop and Bibi and Baba located on site for book and uniform sales on 3, 4, 5, 8 and 22 January.
- 11.00am: IB Diploma results released to Class of 2017 in library.

#### **Monday 8 January 2018 Term 1 School Starts**

- **9am : Full School Assembly in Sports Hall for all students in Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6**
- 9.45am to 11.00am: Tutor Meetings for distribution of Timetable, Checking of ISAMS details, Ice Breaker games, goal setting etc.
- 11.00am: Students with subject and timetable issues are able to see DCs, SLT, IBC etc. Students without issues are released from school.
- Popular Bookshop and Bibi and Baba located on site for book and uniform sales on 3, 4, 5, 8 and 22 January.

#### **Tuesday 9 January Term 1 Lesson Starts**

- 8am: House Meetings
- 8.45am: Period 1 begins followed by regular timetable.

#### Year 5 Start Times

#### **Thursday 18 and Friday 19 January 2018**

- **All returning ACS (International) students enrolling in the Year 5 IB Diploma Programme must confirm their subjects in person with either Ms Ling, Mrs Tan or Ms Alka Hingle at some stage during one of these two days.**
- 9am to 4pm: Pre-Orientation Admission Process for new Year 5 students

#### **Monday 22 to Wednesday 24 January Orientation II and IBDP Induction**

- 9.00am: All Year 5 students report to Chapel for Welcome and start of IB Induction.





## Progression 2018

Letters regarding Progression or Non-Progression 2018 have been sent directly to parents in the last week of term. If parents do not receive a letter from the school they may assume that their son / daughter is progressing to the next year level in 2018.

## Transcripts and Testimonials

Due to the holidays the issuing of late transcripts and testimonials has now closed for the year.

## 2018 Calendar and Term Dates

The school and public holidays calendar for 2018 is again attached for your reference.

### ACS (International) Term Dates 2018

| 2018 | M | T | W | Th | F |  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F  |  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F  |  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F  |  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F  |
|------|---|---|---|----|---|--|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| Jan  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4  | 5 |  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |  | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |  | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |  | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |
| Feb  |   |   |   | 1  | 2 |  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |    |
| Mar  |   |   |   | 1  | 2 |  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Apr  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6 |  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |  | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |  | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |  | 30 |    |    |    |    |
| May  |   | 1 | 2 | 3  | 4 |  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |  | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |  | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |  | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |
| June |   |   |   |    | 1 |  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |    |  | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |  | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |  | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| July | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6 |  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |  | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |  | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |  | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |
| Aug  |   |   | 1 | 2  | 3 |  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |  | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |  | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| Sept | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7 |  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |  | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |  | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |  |    |    |    |    |    |
| Oct  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4  | 5 |  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |  | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |  | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |  | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |
| Nov  |   |   |   | 1  | 2 |  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |  | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Dec  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7 |  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |  | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |  | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |  | 31 |    |    |    |    |

#### School holidays

#### Public holidays

#### Teacher Only Days: New Student Orientation

Monday 8 January: Course Confirmation. All students except Yr 5

Compulsory attendance 9.00am start

Lessons begin for all classes except Yr 5

Orientation for Year 5 begins

No classes; Yr 4 & 6 Prelims Only & Faculty CPD

Final School Day for Yrs 1 - 5 & Speech Day Prize Giving

Teacher Only Days & Yr 6 Graduation 19/20 Nov. TBC

#### Singapore Public Holidays 2018

|                  |           |             |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|
| New Year's Day   | Monday    | 1 January   |
| Chinese New Year | Friday    | 16 February |
|                  | Saturday  | 17 February |
| Good Friday      | Friday    | 30 March    |
| Labour Day       | Tuesday   | 1 May       |
| Vesak Day        | Tuesday   | 29 May      |
| Hari Raya Puasa  | Friday    | 15 June     |
| National Day     | Thursday  | 9 August    |
| Hari Raya Haji   | Wednesday | 22 August   |
| Deepavali        | Tuesday   | 6 November  |
| Christmas Day    | Tuesday   | 25 December |







## STUDENT SUCCESSES

### Swimming News

Students Charity Lien (2 LSG) and Madeline Lye (2 THO) represented Singapore at the 41st SEA Age Group Championships held in Brunei earlier this November. Both swimmers competed in the 14 – 15 year-old category.

Here are their medal results:

| 41st SEA Age Group Results |                        |     |              |                        |     |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----|--------------|------------------------|-----|
| Charity Lien               | 50m Breaststroke       | 2nd | Madeline Lye | 400m Individual medley | 2nd |
|                            | 100m Breaststroke      | 2nd |              | 200m Butterfly         | 4th |
|                            | 200m Individual Medley | 3rd |              | 200m Individual medley | 5th |

It is not easy to achieve such results, especially since this championship was held during the school's examination period. Both Charity and Madeline had reduced their training times to focus on their studies.

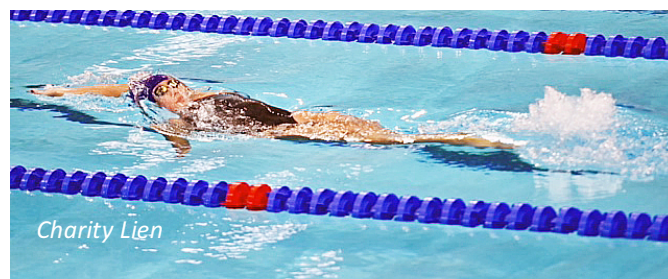
Madeline beat her own personal best by 5.85s at the 400m Individual Medley event, and narrowly missed 3rd place for the 200m Individual Medley by 0.03s.

Both swimmers also competed in the FINA/Airweave Swimming World Cup held in Singapore from 18 – 19 November. The FINA World Cup is an open age competition, and swimmers from all over the world, including professional athletes, gather to compete.

| FINA/Airweave Swimming World Cup |                                       |      |              |                        |      |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------|--------------|------------------------|------|
| Charity Lien                     | 100m Breaststroke<br>(21 competitors) | 13th | Madeline Lye | 200m Individual medley | 18th |
|                                  | 100m Backstroke<br>(23 competitors)   | 15th |              | 400m Individual Medley | 13th |
|                                  | 50m Butterfly<br>(57 competitors)     | 43rd |              | 200m Butterfly         | 15th |

Congratulations to both of them on their admirable performance in both competitions. It's no small feat for them to achieve their rankings up against Olympian swimmers, particularly as they competed so soon after the 41st SEA Age Group Championships.

We are also pleased to share that Charity has been selected by the Singapore Swimming Association to be part of the Singapore Team for a competition and camp that will be held in Perth, Australia this December. She will train under the National Training Centre Assistant Coach, and have training and racing opportunities with other high calibre swimmers. Both girls are indeed rising stars in the swimming arena, and we look forward to seeing their continued progress.



Charity Lien



Madeline Lye



Charity Lien



Madeline Lye

Photos were provided by Charity and Madeline's parents





## Distinction at AIMO

Justin Cheng (2 LSG) has received "Distinction" for the Australian Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad (AIMO). AIMO challenges talented students with a range of interesting mathematical questions with the aim of encouraging and nurturing interest in mathematical problem solving.

Congratulations Justin, and well done.

## Study Nights 2017

This year's Study Nights ran from 5 October to 14 November, every Tuesday and Thursday at the school library. The library extended its opening hours until 8pm for this purpose. The PSP (Parent School Partners) was given an opportunity to show their support for our IGCSE and IBDP students by providing dinner on these nights and snacks throughout the day. Thanks to the generous contributions and suggestions from parents, the students enjoyed a great variety of food; a different cuisine was served every night. They had chicken rice, Ramly burgers, homemade curry chicken, Japanese bento, nasi lemak, Indian briyani and even a Halloween themed dinner. The PSP also made sure there was a constant supply of fruits, biscuits and milo in the library for those much-needed breaks.

Special thanks to the following parents who helped with the catering, cash contributions and sending home-baked cookies and snacks to the library:

Josephine Oei  
 Ng Bee Hong  
 Lorraine Lim  
 Christina Kao  
 Fiona Lim  
 Prema Kanagalingam  
 Lina Wong  
 Beena Haji  
 Pinky Toh  
 Creek & Darren Tan  
 Swati Sakhalkar  
 Lyanne Leong  
 Simran Dadlani  
 Joyce Yong  
 Helen Kee  
 Kan Pau Kim  
 Christine Tan  
 Lauren Halim

## The Hopper Warrior 2017

The Hopper Warrior is a Crossfit competition based on weightlifting, gymnastics and metabolic conditioning. 3 SVM student Noah Ng participated in the teen boys category of the Hopper Warrior. He was the second youngest boy in his category and achieved 4th place with a score just one point shy of joint 3rd place.

Well done Noah!



A breakdown of Noah's results can be found at [https://www.wodrocket.com/event/leaderboard/2946-23702?overall\\_points\\_after=0](https://www.wodrocket.com/event/leaderboard/2946-23702?overall_points_after=0)







## International Student Trip to the Night Safari

Before term ended the International Student Committee (ISC) decided to organise a trip to the Night Safari to close the year well. We all enjoyed the exciting shows and learning about interesting wildlife.

Though the trip had to be cut short because of heavy rain, everyone still had a good time, and will have good memories of the last ISC outing to share as they return home for the holidays.

We all know that good things must come to an end, and this was our last event as a committee. It has been a pleasure serving on the committee, and we wish everyone safe travels and happy holidays!

*Thanakhom Hoontrakul (5 SVM)*







## Year 3 Cameron Highlands Camp Trip

58 students, 6 teachers and the Cameron Highlands – what an adventure!

On 11 November two buses set off bright and early from ACS (International) and drove a good 12 hours to Cameron Highlands, Malaysia. It was a long journey that ended with us arriving to wet weather and a dark campsite. The students took it in their stride. The students took part in trekking across two mountains. The tracks had been rendered slipper by the rain, but this did not deter us. The hard work was worth it, as we were met with sweeping blue skies and green tea plantations as far as the eyes could see.

After three nights of camping, we left Cameron and set off to the bottom of the mountains, passing some beautiful views along the way. We arrived to a lunch spread of incredible Malaysian cuisine which gave us energy in preparation for that afternoon's white water rafting. Many of the students were quite apprehensive in their anticipation of such an activity, but they soon left their worries behind on the river bank as they realised the thrill of rafting. There were even multiple opportunities to dunk friends and teachers in the river. It was a fantastic afternoon that left everyone involved wanting more.

Our final activity was an unusual one. We ventured to explore the largest cave in Malaysia. At first, it was easy going, but as we walked deeper into the darkness with our head torches lighting the way, we had to crawl on our bellies through narrow tunnels, slide on our backs across rocky floors and find our way back out to the light. Everyone thought it great fun.



At one point, our guides told us to turn our torches off, plunging us in total darkness. We could not even see our hands in front of our faces, a great contrast to the brightness of city lights.

It was a wonderful trip where each of us brought home fond memories. Far from the distraction of technology, we spent much meaningful time together, making new friends and enjoying time with old ones. All the students gamely embraced every opportunity presented to them, and they should be very proud of themselves.

*Rachel McCallum*  
Teacher of Drama







## Year 3 End-of-Year Thailand Camp

In November, my schoolmates and I took a trip to Thailand for our End of-Year camp. With exhilarating activities throughout the camp, we were put out of our comfort zones and experienced things that we would not be able to do in Singapore.

We got to try white water rafting in Khao Yai and kayaked down rapids in Ratchaburi – getting up close and personal with nature, especially when we capsized! When we had to abseil down a 40m cliff, some of us had to face our fears and overcome them.

For many of us, staying in a remote area helped us to take a break from technology and to enjoy the scenery. With beautiful mountaintops and luscious green fields, the scenery of Thailand was almost painting-like.

However, the activities and the scenery were not the only highlights of the camp. The camp gave us the chance to bond and get to know one another better. We made new friends and became closer with existing ones, with friendships being strengthened at every step along the way. Whether it was on the long bus rides or capsizing in a kayak, the friendships and bonds formed on this trip will be very hard to break, and the memories shared with these friends will be very hard to forget.

*Tarquin Loh (3 TTK)*







## Year 2 End-of-Year Camp in Indonesia

This year's End-of-Year Camp for Year 2s was held at Telunas resort on Sugi Island, Indonesia. All the students who attended had an activity packed schedule ranging from pottery making to rope walking. They spent 3 days engaged in lots of fun activities and free time on the beach. A highlight of the activities, although a soggy one, was the jungle hike. At the end of a 10km trek through the jungle the students were rewarded with the sight of a beautiful waterfall.



Throughout the trip, the students were very thoughtful with each other and showed each other great encouragement, particularly in high deck jumping. Most students said their favourite activity was kayaking where they learnt to paddle in pairs and were taught survival skills if they were caught in a storm. It was a really enjoyable and meaningful trip for everyone involved.

*Ms Stephanie Dawes  
Teacher-in-charge of the Indonesia camp*







## Year 1 End-of-year Camp 2017

*The Year 1 EOY Camp was a series of day trips that ran from 13 – 15 November.*



My first end-of-year camp in ACS International was a real highlight of my first year in this school. We went to places such as the Tessensohn Civil Service Club, East Coast Park, JCube and Haw Par Villa and participated in many exciting and interesting activities such as Amazing Race, cycling, rock climbing and ice skating. Even though I was not able to participate in the rock climbing and ice skating activities

because of a fractured wrist, I was not downcast because I could help out by being a bystander or a cameraman.

These activities really helped me to build my bonds between groupmates such as working together as a team, co-operating with one another and learning to share ideas with others. Some activities did not go according to plan, but that did not matter to me because I had a lot of fun with my teachers and groupmates.

This camp also helped me in building up my sportsmanship and not to be upset or angry with myself or other groupmates because we did not win an activity or event. I also learned my way around Singapore better so that the next time I go out with my friends or class, I will be more familiar with my surroundings.

As this year's camp comes to an end, I will like to thank all the teachers and guides who helped organize this camp and for making it a very exciting experience for me. For next year's year 1 students, I wish you all the best for your first year in ACS (International) and that you will have a very fun time with your friends and teachers. The Best Is Yet To Be.

*Joschka Kalisch  
1LSG*







## Year 3 Trip to Gardenia Bread Factory

A Year 3 Chemistry class (3Ch1) and Business Studies (3BS1) class visited the Gardenia Bread Factory early in November as a pilot collaboration project between the Science and Humanities departments.



The students were given a short briefing about the diverse types of breads sold by Gardenia and watched a video of the different processes involved in the baking process. They then had a tour of the factory where the tour guide explained the function of each of the machinery.



The students were awestruck by the way the bread was produced. Chemistry students were able to relate the concepts that they had learned in school to the real-life processes such as fermentation. The Business students saw how flow and batch production, product packaging, product promotion and the variety of channels of distribution were applied throughout the company. This has helped them translate their learning of theories in class to practical reality. After the tour, students were offered free samples of bread types – a live example of product promotion! Gardenia also graciously offered each student two sweet flavoured breads to enjoy.



On the whole, the trip was a tremendous success and the students learnt a lot from the trip. It was nice for them to see real life applications of what they were learning in school.

## Inter-House Drama Competition

This year's Inter-house Drama competition proved to be a very entertaining one. There was a wide variety of genres including Comedy, Horror and Drama. Students were asked to come up with their own spin on any topic they liked, and they entertained the school with short dramas based on Shakespeare, the Nativity, fairytales, school, and detention. The students also made all their own props and costumes, and it was truly impressive to see them flourish their creativity on stage.

The winning House was TTK, with their creative adaptation of "The Breakfast Club". The rest of the results are as seen below:

Best Actor: Armaan Haji (5 TTK)

Best Actress: Indah Tjahjowidodo (4 GHK)

Best Director: Renee Ng (4 SVM)

Best House Costumes: LSG

Best House Props: THO

Overall Ranking:

1. TTK
2. SVM
3. THO
4. GHK
5. TCT & OLD
6. -
7. CKS
8. LSG







## Speech Day and Graduation 2017

A big thank you to all the parents, students, staff, and guests for their role in Speech Day and Graduation 2017. It was a wonderful time of celebrating our students' successes and looking back on a year of hard work. We also streamed both Speech Day and the Graduation Ceremony live on Facebook – having friends and family join us from abroad and share in our celebrations made the day even more special.

