



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends

This last week of term we have enjoyed the annual school Athletics Sports Day which featured 23 new records and our largest number of competitors, and we have celebrated many excellent results recorded in the Term 1 report grades. The top sports performances and awards will be itemised in the April issue of our Newsletter. We congratulate all the successful students on their achievements.

At the Sports Day and the Wednesday assembly presentation of Principal's List and Distinction certificates, the positive affirmation of successful students by both staff and other students was most encouraging. Strong and positive relationships are at the heart of our school. We believe that students respond better to positive reinforcement as opposed to punitive correction. 'Honey rather than vinegar'! Professor John Hattie of the University of Melbourne has published a number of books and academic articles based on his extensive research to find the factors that most influence student achievement. Positive relationships improve student learning by nearly two times the average achievement expected in a year. (Other high scoring factors include Teacher Expectations, Questioning, Direct and Guided Teacher Instruction, Study Skills, Feedback, Classroom Discussion, Teacher Credibility, and Student Expectations of themselves).

Christians too can expect a positive relationship with God our Father. He is not a distant God but one who wants to relate closely with us. The Parable of the Prodigal Son, and other parables including the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin are examples of how God wants a close relationship with us. According to biblical scholars, there are approximately 25,000 words that Jesus spoke recorded in the Bible. Of those 25,000 words, Jesus taught about the Father in Heaven at least 181 times. This translates to 1 out of every 140 words where Jesus spoke about His Father, whom He referred to as 'Abba Father', an Aramaic word roughly translated as "Daddy". Jesus' central message and purpose was to restore us to a relationship with our Dad in Heaven.

At our 131st Founder's Day celebration held on 1 March our Guest of Honour, Mr Cheo Chai Hong, a senior leader in UOB Bank and former President of the ACS Old Boys Association, spoke about the impact of the ACS Chapel services which led to him developing a close relationship with God, plus the strong relationships he formed with other ACS boys which continues today. Some of the many benefits of an ACS education!

This week is the last week of Term 1 and we wish everyone a safe and enjoyable week's break from lessons and we look forward to the start of Term 2 on 20 March.

Rob Burrough

- Staff News
- Parent-Teacher Meeting
- Traffic around Jalan Hitam Manis
- Methodist Walk Information
- Awards for Term Reports
- Attendance/Punctuality/Appearance/Attire
- Students' Academic Achievement
- Founder's Day Student Reflections
- Singapore Student leaders' Conference
- MUN of the University of Chicago
- NUS FASS Summer Seminar Programme
- International Students' Events
- Run for Hope
- Give to Change
- Alumni Catch Up – Elizabeth Ho
- Journey To Infinity
- Singapore's Writers' Festival
- Upcoming Events

**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

*M&M's chocolate stands for the initials
for its inventors Mars and Murrie*

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Mr Chia Choong Kiat who has been appointed Acting Vice Principal, replacing Mr MacLean, until a permanent appointment is made later in the year.

We welcome two new support staff members, Ms Nikkie Lim as the new Arts Technician and Mr Harold Manalo as the new IT System and Network Administrator.

Ms Adina Wong starts as Learning Support Coordinator at the beginning of next term. She replaces Mrs Susan George who returned to India at the end of last year.

NOTICES

Parent-Teacher Meeting

Parents, Guardians and students are asked to attend the first PTM of the year on **Thursday 23 March**. There are no bookings ('first come first served') and teachers will be available from **8.30 – 12 noon** and again from **1.00 – 4.00pm**.

Traffic around Jalan Hitam Manis

The LTA has approached the school concerning traffic conditions in the school's vicinity. As a matter of importance, the school requests the cooperation of parents, students and staff to help improve the situation.

The safety of our students is our utmost priority. As the narrow road is often unable to comfortably accommodate both pedestrians and motorists, we ask that both groups exercise caution and patience during their journey. This is for the safety of all road users, including students and young children.

Students are reminded to be aware of their surroundings, to not use their phones whilst walking, and to look out for traffic. It is not worth risking serious injury or damage for the sake of saving a few minutes. Please travel in single-file where necessary.

We are a part of the local community in the Holland Village area, and we can all do our part to be good neighbours to those around us.

Methodist Walk Information

Parents and students should already have received information from Ms Kerry Sibson (PE Teacher) regarding the Methodist Walk. An abridged version has been reproduced below:

On Saturday 25 March, ACS (International) will be taking part in the Methodist Walk. This biennial fundraising walk has been supporting 16 Methodist schools in Singapore for 16 years, and is organized by the Methodist Schools' Foundation. 100 percent of proceeds raised by students will be used by schools to support different activities of each school.

To support this event, all students in the school have been busy collecting donations using their donation card which they should have already submitted to their tutor.

Please note it is compulsory for all Year 1 & 2 students to attend this official school event. The details are as follows:

- **Date:** Saturday 25 March 2017
- **Venue:** Anglo Chinese Junior College, 25 Dover Close East, 139745.
- **Time:** Students to make their own way to ACJC and should arrive between 06.45am – 07.00am (no later than 07.00am). They will be dismissed from the venue at approximately 10.15am.

Further information:

Travel arrangements: ACJC is also accessible via the back gate at Block 2a Dover Rise. It is recommended that students make their way to ACJC on foot to avoid traffic congestion in this area.

Attire: Students should wear their PE attire and bring an umbrella/raincoat in case of bad weather.

Wet weather plans: Tutors will notify students by email if the walk is cancelled due to bad weather.

Arrival: Students should look out for the ACS (International) balloons and assemble there with their House Tutors.

Dismissal: Students will be dismissed from the venue at approximately 10.15am by their House Tutors. They must make their own travel arrangements to return home.

As this is an official school event, if for any reason students are not able to attend this event due to external club commitments, students will be expected to get a note from their coach confirming this, otherwise it will be marked as 'absent from school activities'.

If you have any questions regarding the walk, please email your child/ward's house tutor who will be able to respond to any queries.



Awards from Term Reports

The academic report for Term 1 is available in the school parent portal <https://parents.acsinternational.com.sg/api/login>.

You can access the parent portal from the school website under Contact Us / Parent Login. Once you are in the portal, please go to School Profile / School Reports / View Student's school Assessments / 2016 Term 3. Or you may install the iParent app using Code: ACS and log in using the same parent portal credentials.

If you have not accessed the parent portal previously and have not received any information regarding the parent portal, you may email rosdiawati@acsinternational.com.sg for help.

The term reports this year will give feedback on three aspects of work: Subject Attainment; Attitude to Learning; and Completion of Work. The Subject Attainment grade will be an amalgamation of 'Attainment' and 'Tests and Coursework' from previous years. The new Attainment grade is a reflection of a student's academic achievement in relation to potential achievement for that term only.

It will therefore be possible for students to gain a Grade 7 (the maximum grade) in each term if s/he performs at an outstanding level. The Attainment grade will be derived from a combination of both formal and informal assessment.

As a result of the change to Report grades we have adjusted the Report Awards as per the following table. To gain the Principal's List or Distinction commendation, a student must achieve all subjects with grades 6 or 7.

Award		Number of Grade 7s		
		Attainment	Attitude to Learning	Completion of Work
Principal's List	All grades must be a 6 or a 7	4	5	5
Distinction	All grades must be a 6 or a 7	3	4	4
Commendation for Achievement and Effort	All grades must be a 5, 6 or a 7	2	3	3
Commendation for Effort	All grades must be a 5, 6 or a 7	N/A	4	4

Attendance/Punctuality/Appearance/Attire

ACS (International) - Attendance/Punctuality/Appearance/Attire (APA) Management Framework			
Objectives	School Goal: To encourage the development of personal standards such as self-discipline		
	School Value: To inculcate 'Tenacity' - Perseverance in personal standards		
W.E.F.	20th of Feb 2017		
Attempts (Termly)	Attendance for School/Class	Punctuality for School/Class	Improper Appearance/Attire
1st	If it is found to be truancy, HT emails parents/guardian. HsM is informed.	If lateness is not backed with valid reason(s), HT is to speak to the student.	If improper appearance or attire is not backed with valid reason(s), HT is to speak to student stating a deadline for the appearance/attire to be rectified.
2nd	HsM emails parents/guardian.	HT emails parents/guardian and keeps HsM informed.	HT emails/calls parents/guardians to set a new deadline for adherence.
3rd	Parents/guardians invited to a meeting with HsM, together with the student, to address the problem.	Parents/guardians invited to a meeting with HsM, together with the student, to address the problem.	Parents/guardians invited to a meeting with HsM, together with the student, to address the problem.
4th	A contract stating specific expectations for attendance and repercussions for violation will be drafted by HsM in consultation with the Divisional VP. The student, parents/guardians and HsM will sign the contract.	A contract stating specific expectations for punctuality and repercussions for violation will be drafted by HsM in consultation with the Divisional VP. The student, parents/guardians and HsM will sign the contract.	A contract stating specific expectations for appearance/attire and repercussions for violation will be drafted by HsM in consultation with the Divisional VP. The student, parents/guardians and HsM will sign the contract.
5th	Actions to be taken by the respective Divisional VP, based on the contract.	Actions to be taken by the respective Divisional VP, based on the contract.	Actions to be taken by the respective Divisional VP, based on the contract.
Subsequently	May be raised to Principal's attention and action.	May be raised to Principal's attention and action.	May be raised to Principal's attention and action.
Note(s)	Only one parental/guardian letter per term is allowed for absence. Subsequent parental/guardian letters can only be approved by SLT, based on strong mitigating reason(s). For authorised leave, parents/guardians will need to write to VP for approval as early as possible, prior to the absence. From the third attempt onwards, HsM to record in 'Notes' on iSAMS on conversation and actions taken.	For lateness for morning registration, HT is to speak to student. For lateness to class, ST is to speak to student.	HT and ST have to be vigilant to check on the students' appearance/attire regularly and to keep HsM informed for support when necessary.
Legend	HT: House Tutor		
	ST: Subject Teacher		
	HsM: House Master / House Mistress		



Principal's List for Effort and Achievement

S/No	Name	Year	Academic House
1	Avi Tripathi	4	Cheong Koon Seng
2	Lee Hyun Ju	6	Cheong Koon Seng
3	Ho Li Yi Jamie	4	Goh Hood Keng
4	Dhruv Uppal	6	Goh Hood Keng
5	Zhu Mengqi	6	Goh Hood Keng
6	Maggie Liu Yi Ling	6	Lee Seng Gee
7	Stefan Njoo Qi An	6	Lee Seng Gee
8	Li Yan Pui Carys	1	Oldham
9	Shreaya Suresh Kumar	3	Oldham
10	Wang Ruiming	3	Oldham
11	Lee Hyojun	4	Oldham
12	Chung Yungling Samantha	6	Oldham
13	Guo Shiyu	6	Oldham
14	Neha Nikhil Matani	6	Oldham
15	Yang Tzu Hsien	6	Oldham
16	Chen Yili	3	Shaw Vee Meng
17	Tan Liyi	4	Tan Chin Tuan
18	Aarthy Narainy Ravichandran	3	Tan Kah Kee
19	Megan Man	3	Tan Kah Kee
20	Ren Yiting	3	Tan Kah Kee
21	Jasper Melchior Van Selim	4	Tan Kah Kee
22	Christian Steven Jonathan	6	Tan Kah Kee
23	Hu Yanran	6	Tan Kah Kee
24	Xu Ling	3	Thoburn
25	Andy Ferdinand	6	Thoburn
26	Wang Huey Wei Timothy Obi	6	Thoburn
27	Wu Fang Tuo	6	Thoburn

Commendation for Effort

S/No	Name	Year	Academic House
1	Tan Mu En Jenell	1	Cheong Koon Seng
2	Timothy Goh Rui En	2	Cheong Koon Seng
3	Josephine Khoo Rui En	2	Cheong Koon Seng
4	Lai Shanxuan	2	Cheong Koon Seng
5	Hannah Kek Yi Hui	3	Cheong Koon Seng
6	Lee Lei Matthew	5	Cheong Koon Seng
7	Tang Shiyu	5	Cheong Koon Seng
8	Tawan Ng Wei Ming	2	Goh Hood Keng
9	Hu Jie	3	Goh Hood Keng
10	Amelia Govier Lyngs	4	Goh Hood Keng
11	Tok Dingyi Jeremiah	5	Goh Hood Keng
12	Wang Yanqing	5	Goh Hood Keng
13	Gu Yu	6	Goh Hood Keng
14	Trang Si Khai	6	Goh Hood Keng
15	Abirami Rajam Karthik	1	Lee Seng Gee
16	Sanjeevani Sriram	3	Lee Seng Gee
17	Brendan Marc Tan	5	Lee Seng Gee
18	Chan Kangan	5	Lee Seng Gee
19	Chung Sue-Wei	5	Lee Seng Gee
20	Wu Jiarui	5	Lee Seng Gee
21	Zhuang Kaidi	5	Lee Seng Gee
22	Nguyen Vinh Phuong Chan	6	Lee Seng Gee
23	Sim Si Leng	4	Oldham
24	Ge Yun	5	Oldham
25	Hoe Tze En Nirel	5	Oldham
26	Jiang Zixin	5	Oldham
27	Sophie Damawan	5	Oldham
28	Yang Tze-Te	5	Oldham
29	Tan Cao Lyn	1	Shaw Vee Meng
30	Joel Liow Xuan Hao	2	Shaw Vee Meng
31	Jade Chan	4	Shaw Vee Meng
32	Huang Ruiyi	5	Shaw Vee Meng
33	Chan Wan-Yu	6	Shaw Vee Meng
34	Jin Jiayin	6	Shaw Vee Meng
35	Juanita Prince Augustin	6	Shaw Vee Meng
36	Dharisha Girish Jethani	1	Tan Chin Tuan
37	Natanya Abigail Mandagi	1	Tan Chin Tuan
38	Tan Ruiyi	3	Tan Chin Tuan
39	Chang Jen Ying Jade	4	Tan Chin Tuan
40	Tan Weng Tong	5	Tan Chin Tuan
41	Ye Weiying	5	Tan Chin Tuan
42	Huynh Tran Qui Quan	6	Tan Chin Tuan
43	David Leong Kai En	1	Tan Kah Kee
44	Potlala Boonkitungpaisam	2	Tan Kah Kee
45	Cheng Yingfei	2	Tan Kah Kee
46	Fransisca Indrawarputri	4	Tan Kah Kee
47	Jung Arang	4	Tan Kah Kee
48	Goh Teng Wee	5	Tan Kah Kee
49	Nathaniel Marthen	5	Tan Kah Kee
50	Teo Kai Hui	5	Tan Kah Kee
51	Chan Siye	6	Tan Kah Kee
52	Poon Chee Yean	6	Tan Kah Kee
53	Sunny Singh	4	Thoburn
54	Hu Yuwei	5	Thoburn
55	Russell Scott Indradjaja	5	Thoburn
56	Cynthia Salim	6	Thoburn

Distinction for Effort and Achievement

S/No	Name	Year	Academic House
1	Ashley See Yao Jun	1	Cheong Koon Seng
2	Irfan Farhad Vasawala	1	Cheong Koon Seng
3	He Yajing	3	Cheong Koon Seng
4	Chen Kaiyuan	6	Cheong Koon Seng
5	Sin Hau Nam	1	Goh Hood Keng
6	Cai Linshan	3	Goh Hood Keng
7	Li Andi	3	Goh Hood Keng
8	Teo Yi Ting Victoria	3	Goh Hood Keng
9	Huang Ruo Xin Veronica	4	Goh Hood Keng
10	Sarah Darmawan	4	Goh Hood Keng
11	Cen Yu	6	Goh Hood Keng
12	Xu Yingzhi	6	Goh Hood Keng
13	Joschka Flynn Kalisch	1	Lee Seng Gee
14	Shu Luoandi	3	Lee Seng Gee
15	Noah Ng Yi En	3	Shaw Vee Meng
16	Trinh Duc Thai	3	Shaw Vee Meng
17	Park Ju-Hyun	4	Shaw Vee Meng
18	Wang Lu Ying	4	Shaw Vee Meng
19	Anjana Sudharsan	4	Tan Chin Tuan
20	Evangeline Leong Li En	6	Tan Chin Tuan
21	Koo Ja Hyun	6	Tan Chin Tuan
22	Chen Yuxuan	6	Tan Kah Kee
23	Nguyen Hien Thuc Doan	6	Tan Kah Kee
24	Tan Jek Min Christabelle	6	Tan Kah Kee
25	Fu Liwen	3	Thoburn
26	Chen Xingyu	4	Thoburn
27	Chen Xinmiao	4	Thoburn
28	Lee Si Xian Rachel	4	Thoburn

Commendation for Effort and Achievement

S/No	Name	Year	Academic House				
1	Vansh Bansal	2	Cheong Koon Seng	31	Gweon Sujin	2	Tan Chin Tuan
2	Gurnihal Singh	2	Cheong Koon Seng	32	Shreyas Ashvin Henry	2	Tan Chin Tuan
3	Emily Elizabeth Kriebisch	3	Cheong Koon Seng	33	Riho Takaki	2	Tan Chin Tuan
4	Tan Jia Ying Nicolle	3	Cheong Koon Seng	34	Wang Yuxin	2	Tan Chin Tuan
5	Li Zhongrui	4	Cheong Koon Seng	35	Chan Suet Yi Cherie	3	Tan Chin Tuan
6	Hannah Kai-Xin Koh	4	Cheong Koon Seng	36	Choi Madeline Yu-Jin	3	Tan Chin Tuan
7	Papawarin Kerdkaewfah	4	Cheong Koon Seng	37	Nicole Chung Mae Sze	3	Tan Chin Tuan
8	Jo Yoonseo	6	Cheong Koon Seng	38	Riya Sanjeev	3	Tan Chin Tuan
9	Daning Dyah Savitri Tjahjowidodo	2	Goh Hood Keng	39	Joung Jaewon	4	Tan Chin Tuan
10	Stephanie Tsang Miao Zi	2	Goh Hood Keng	40	Wu Ke	4	Tan Chin Tuan
11	Indah Wahyu Hapsari Tjahjowidodo	3	Goh Hood Keng	41	Liu Miao Miao	6	Tan Chin Tuan
12	Zhang Xinlei	3	Goh Hood Keng	42	Chau Nguyen Khanh Giao	2	Tan Kah Kee
13	Liu Xiaotan	4	Goh Hood Keng	43	Han Paing Soe	3	Tan Kah Kee
14	Wu Hanyu	4	Goh Hood Keng	44	Wong Chia Yun	4	Tan Kah Kee
15	Zhu Zhenyue	6	Goh Hood Keng	45	Cheyenne Helen Chesney	4	Tan Kah Kee
16	Pariyakorn Lertphati	2	Lee Seng Gee	46	Zhao Jiaxuan	4	Tan Kah Kee
17	Wang Yanze	2	Lee Seng Gee	47	Yang Xiyan	6	Tan Kah Kee
18	Judith Ann Ho Han Lin	3	Lee Seng Gee	48	Shreya Supriyakumar Sakhalakar	1	Thoburn
19	Ham Ji Won	4	Lee Seng Gee	49	Ayushi Lahiry	3	Thoburn
20	Khunassanan Nunthakunatip	4	Lee Seng Gee	50	Xiong Jianan	3	Thoburn
21	Wu Di	4	Lee Seng Gee	51	Chen Qianye	4	Thoburn
22	Wang Fanping	6	Lee Seng Gee	52	Zhang Ruiyang	4	Thoburn
23	Emmanuel Quintis Carter	1	Oldham	53	Wang Tianwen	6	Thoburn
24	Lucas Zachary Leong Joe-Yili	2	Oldham				
25	Gouw Bei Ni Nicole	2	Shaw Vee Meng				
26	Lim Kai Jun	2	Shaw Vee Meng				
27	Jole Chin Le	3	Shaw Vee Meng				
28	Gao RucQi	6	Shaw Vee Meng				
29	Jeong Soo Hwan	1	Tan Chin Tuan				
30	Roy Kawaguchi	1	Tan Chin Tuan				



Founder's Day Student Reflections

I strongly believe that it's really important for us to celebrate and mark this special day when ACS first began.

We are ACS students who have this in common: the ACS spirit. It's a spirit, a passion we all appreciate and carry with us even when we leave the safe arms of the ACS School. It has brought us together as a school in one community. Rev. William Oldham brought students together all those years ago for a reason: to be able to learn to love each other. Founder's Day is the day that reminds us of who we are and what we're here for. We are after all a part of this unique ACS family.

This year we celebrated our 131st Founder's Day. I feel so proud of being able to join in this great event even though I have only been here for 2 years. Moreover, as we at ACS (International) didn't just celebrate the day ACS was born, we celebrate the many nationalities which make this school distinct and live together as a big family. The flags of the countries that my schoolmates come from were paraded at the start of the ceremony, and were waved with energy and pride. When the Guest of Honour who is also an old boy of ACS gave his speech, it touched me to think of how far we have come.



From my point of view, I love being part of this ACS family. The celebration of Founder's Day has encouraged and inspired me to get going with my school life and to find the balance between academic life and school activities. I wish I could come back after I graduate and be able to proudly talk to the next generation of ACSians and believe that they'll do better than my generation because, the best is yet to be.

Arin Thirasawasd 4 THO



Singapore Student Leaders' Conference

The Singapore Student Leaders' Conference (SSLC) is a brainchild of the 6th Board of Student Ambassadors. I can vividly remember the day when the executive committee members came into a meeting, brimming with pride as they explained their initiative.



They aimed to initiate an annual forum for student leaders to discuss global and national issues regarding the welfare of the student population in Singapore – so as to generate practical resolutions for real change.

The process of organising such an event for the first time is challenging to say the least. But the students carried it out with efficiency and vigour. As the months went by, they launched a website and developed their ideas. The conference began to take shape; the administration team worked tirelessly to invite delegates and ensure that everyone received the necessary information. Delegates included students from Anderson Junior College, Pioneer Junior College, Innova Junior College, SJI International, Stamford International, Global Indian International, German European School, Canadian International School, and of course, our own students. It was truly heartening to see the enthusiastic response to the SSLC from delegates from both international and local schools.



On 18 February, the delegates gathered together to discuss issues on elitism, discrimination, integration and academics. At the end of the day, a Resolution Paper that touched on all four topics was passed. The Guest of Honour, Mr Richard Seow gave out awards for Best Overall Speaker, Outstanding Speaker, and Honourable Mention at the end of the event.

We would like to thank our panel of speakers: Mrs Tan Siew Hoon, Dr Lee Chee Keng from Yale-NUS, and Mrs Joey Tan Leow from Hwa Chong Institute for their presence. They asked questions and made comments on the resolutions. We could not have done this without the additional help of Lee Ann, Yeong Hon Weng and Gareth Koh who were also on the organising committee, and the generous support from our Parent School Partners. Because we believed and worked hard, we made the SSLC happen. A big thank you to everyone who attended the conference.

*By Mdm Koh Leng Leng
(Teacher-in-charge of Student Ambassadors)*

Award:	School:
Best Overall Speaker	
Aanya Muranjan	Canadian International School
Outstanding Speaker Award	
Lynette Lim	SJI International
Reshma Ishawarya	Anderson Junior College
Akkshaj Singh	ACS (International)
Honourable Mention	
Celyna Peck	ACS (International)
James Ongkauko	SJI International
Erin Ching	ACS (International)
Andrew Lam	ACS (International)
Zhang Ruiyang	ACS (International)
Nika Sadri	ACS (International)

Awards were given to the students as listed below:

The SSLC website may be viewed at
<http://sgstudentleaderscon.wixsite.com/2017>.



Model United Nations of the University of Chicago

In February this year, 12 students, accompanied by Mr. Christopher Bossan and Ms Analiza Garcia, participated in the Model United Nations of the University of Chicago held in Chicago, IL. The conference had about 2,600 participants from the surrounding states and other countries including China, South Africa and Japan. We represented Serbia in a wide range of committees: Legal, SOCHUM, ECOSOC and continuous crisis. Our delegates were from all over the world too, from countries such as Malaysia, Thailand, Britain and Singapore.

After weeks of research, procedural and debate preparation, delegates debated on solutions to the big questions and issues of our time, with topic such as Securing the Movement of Refugees, Improving Global Access to Education, Responsibility to Respond to Nuclear Accidents and to name a few. Our delegates put in hours of debating, lobbying and writing within their respective committees during committee sessions, sharing their perspectives and ideas with other delegates from Puerto Rico, Canada and China. The delegates engaged in meaningful debates and collaborated with members of their committees, forming blocs and drafting and presenting Working Papers, which after more Unmoderated Caucuses and debates, would finally become a Resolution deserving of the committee's vote and approval. Three delegates, Dhruv Uppal, Leow Yong Tee and Naveen Venkat, (pictured) were awarded Outstanding Delegates of their respective committees during the MUNUC 2017 closing ceremony.

Other than debating, the delegation immersed themselves in the culture of the windy city. We were lucky enough to stay at the Palmer House Hilton, the 150 year old hotel where the conference was held. The hotel's central location in downtown Chicago made it easy for us to walk to places of interest, such as the Art Institute of Chicago and the Willis Tower (not to mention multiple deep-dish pizza spots).

We are extremely grateful for this amazing opportunity to work together and hone our negotiation, communication and public speaking skills. We have learned how to work together, striving towards the common good and learning to be diplomatic when handling conflict or differences. MUNUC has allowed us to learn and grow in ways that would not have been possible without the support of our teachers, who guided us through the administrative and debate procedures in addition to taking care of us throughout the duration of the trip. MUNUC 2017 was an incredibly enriching experience that allowed delegates to experience the culture of Model United Nations conferences in the United States, as well as the lovely sights of Chicago. The Envoy Club is so proud of our Headliners!

By Chung Sue Wei, 5 LSG



Our Outstanding Delegates awardees



NUS FASS Summer Seminar Programme for ACS (International)

In collaboration with the National University of Singapore Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (NUS FASS), our school was delighted to have the opportunity to take Year 6 students of Theory of Knowledge to a seminar on 22 February.

The theme of the seminar was “Post-Truth: Can human behaviour be understood via generalisations?”

In the morning, the students attended two lectures, one by Associate Professor Paulin Straughan on “The social construction of Reality”, which gave an insight into how people determine “truths”. The second lecture was by Associate Professor Narayanan Ganapathy, and investigated qualitative data and observations on the phenomenon of post-truth.

This was followed by a breakout session in the afternoon where students were taken through the Asch Experiment, a famous experiment designed to test how peer pressure to conform would influence the judgement and individuality of a test subject.



In conversation with some students, it was good to hear that they became more aware that the notions we take for granted, such as social class and romantic love, are conceptualised by society. Adding to that, they learned that the separation of objective and subjective reality is a frame of reference when they examine how knowledge is constructed in the Natural Sciences as compared with Human Sciences.

The lecturers brought to our attention that those who deviate from the norms which are socially constructed are then marginalized, once again because of social constructs.

The material on quantitative and qualitative approaches to data collection lent itself to some of the knowledge questions in the Human Sciences that is part of their TOK course, e.g. to what extent are the methods of the human sciences ‘scientific’?

The lecturers were generous in distilling their vast knowledge and experience in the most engaging way to our students.

It can be said the conference achieved its objectives, given the feedback from students. We give a sample of these responses:

Wong Yu Wen

This TOK seminar was a great chance for students to experience a university lecture from real professors on an interesting yet little known subject. I found Professor Straughan and Professor Ganapathy's sociology lectures to be well delivered and, more importantly, very meta and very thought provoking - which aligns with the purpose of TOK.

Neha Matani

The TOK Seminar was truly an eye-opening experience as we were shown how the scope of TOK could be viewed from other disciplines and perspectives. We were presented with how the concept of human behaviour under the AOK Human Sciences could be considered from the lens of a sociological perspective. The debate concerning the generalization of humans was especially interesting to understand through the concepts of quantitative and qualitative sociology. The presentations made for an engaging discussion about generalizations, giving us students a deeper understanding of knowledge as a whole.

J.A (an extract)

Social norms was another concept that was explored in the lectures. Prof Gana highlighted the idea that people who deviate from social norms are often marginalised due to these created social constructs. We then took part in a social conformity experiment and through this we learnt the reasons as to why people tend to conform to social norms and how ethics play a role in the production of knowledge. Overall, this experience was very insightful as it helped us understand how “truths” are formed and how society forms a framework for behaviour. Apart from that, the seminar proved to be very useful as it gave us an idea as to what we could include in our arguments for the oral presentation and essay.



Annual Lunar New Year Dinner for International Students

The annual Chinese New Year dinner, kindly sponsored by Holland Village Methodist Church, was organized by the International Students Pastoral Care Student Committee and took place on 11 February. It was a chance for our students who came from various cultural backgrounds, to experience the feel of a Chinese New Year reunion dinner. Besides the good food, they were kept occupied with a variety of games led by the student leaders and entertained by performances put up by their fellow schoolmates.

After registration, a fast-paced game of musical chairs took place raising the excitement and setting the mood for the dinner. The game was not only for the students, but also the church members! It was rather amusing to see adults jumping around trying to blend in with a group of young adults. Before settling down for the dinner, each student was given a number for the lucky draw. The lucky ones would win a series of desirable prizes, such as a \$20 Starbucks gift card. Of course, there was a *lohei* eating competition with the students getting first-hand experience in preparing the *lohei* themselves. Before the meal, Mr MacLean addressed us all in an opening speech, after which the Missions Chairman of Holland Village Methodists Church, Mr. Mun, said grace. During the dinner, we were treated to a series of dynamic performances varying from solos to group dances. The performance ended with us being serenaded by one of our own staff members.

Sadly, it was the last international student event that Mr and Mrs MacLean would be attending in ACS (International). To thank him for his many contributions to the school, the international students and house representatives prepared a surprise for him. When it was time, we switched off all the lights. Ms Chantal sang a farewell song in the darkness while the rest of us took out our cell phones and switched on the flashlight. It was an amazing sight! We then presented him with a map which had been signed by all the international students as our way of saying thank you to him for taking care of us. Mr MacLean closed the evening with a touching farewell speech, emphasising that it was the students in the school that made it unique.

The dinner was also graced by our chaplain Rev. Joel Yong and other members of Holland Village Methodist Church.

All in all, it was a joyful event where students of different nationalities and cultures were able to come together and experience the Singaporean culture of a Chinese New Year reunion dinner.

Channary Chea 6 THO



English Tuition for International Students

In the month of February, a group of ACS (International) Alumni (Class of 2016) conducted weekly English tuition lesson classes for ESOL students. Over the course of 4 weeks, Friday evenings were dedicated to an enriching time of games and activities that helped students practice their conversational and comprehension skills. Students learned more about synonyms and grammatical structures. Both students and Alumni were able to connect easily throughout the course of the lessons, and even forged close friendships. Indeed, this was truly a memorable course for both students and Alumni, and both benefitted greatly from the course.



"Society needs cooperation. Learning English is the same. Language is a kind of tool for communicating with others. We must communicate with others in English and the best approach is to learn it well. So, I took part in the English class. In class, the seniors created the chance for us students to work together. Through cooperation, we enjoyed learning the language. I really enjoyed this class!"

Mei Yazhu (Catherine) Pre IGCSE 2 CKS

"It was a different experience for me to step into the shoes of a teacher. Although it was a challenge planning lessons, there was always a sense of warmth in coming back to ACS (International), much like coming home."

Isaiah Yap, Class of 2016



Run for Hope



On Sunday a happy group of ACS (International) staff, families and students ran the Run for Hope 2017 run around the Marina Bay area.

It was a happy occasion and a sad one for Mr MacLean as this was his last official run in Singapore. The camaraderie was excellent and the run was enjoyed by all.

Run for Hope is an annual run that is organised by Four Seasons Hotel Singapore, Regent Singapore, and the National Cancer Centre Singapore to raise awareness and financial support for cancer research.

Give to Change

Give to Change is a student-driven charity project for the non-profit organization CoME (Children of Mother Earth). It helps underprivileged children and families in undeveloped regions of India where no assistance is available. CoME provides affected children with a safe place to call "home", an education, nutritious meals, personal welfare, and long-term counselling so that they can become self-sufficient and contributing members of the community in the future.

A team of student leaders is planning to collect clothing and stationery items for the underprivileged children through a donation drive, then pack and sort the items into boxes for shipping. They will also be running a fund raising campaign to cover the cost of shipping the boxes to India. This will include a food delivery service and a netball tournament, amongst other activities.

You too, can do your part to extend a helping hand to children whose minds are bright but futures are uncertain – you can make a big difference to their lives.

If you would like to contribute, please contact Head Girl Erin Ching at ching.erin@acsinternational.com.sg.

To find out more about CoME, please go to <http://www.comeinternational.org/>.

Alumni Catch Up - Elizabeth Ho

Elizabeth Ho graduated in 2013 – this month we catch up with her to find out what she is up to.



Q: What are you doing now?

I'm in my third year of university, studying life sciences as my major.

Q: How has your time at ACS (International) shaped you?

I first came in as an extremely shy student and I was initially anxious of talking to my peers and teachers. However, I realized that they were friendly and receptive

whenever I needed help and in time to come, I slowly came out of my shell. Eventually I grew out of my comfort zone and began to attempt things I had never done before. I also learned how to do things more independently and to take charge of activities on my own. There were a few downfalls along the way, but I learned to pick myself up and do things right again.

Q: What are your best memories at ACS?

Getting involved in school and interhouse activities (E.g. Celefest, Sports Day, Interhouse Drama, overseas community trips). They made school less dull and helped me to take my mind off studying.

Q: What are your plans for the near future?

I hope to find a job in the environmental sector as I have an interest in environmental science and I'm currently studying modules related to environmental biology.

Q: What advice do you have for your juniors at ACS?

Do not be afraid to try out new things because in the end, you might end up enjoying them and they might help you in the near future.

Thank you Elizabeth for your willingness to share a bit of your life with us. We wish you all the best in your studies!

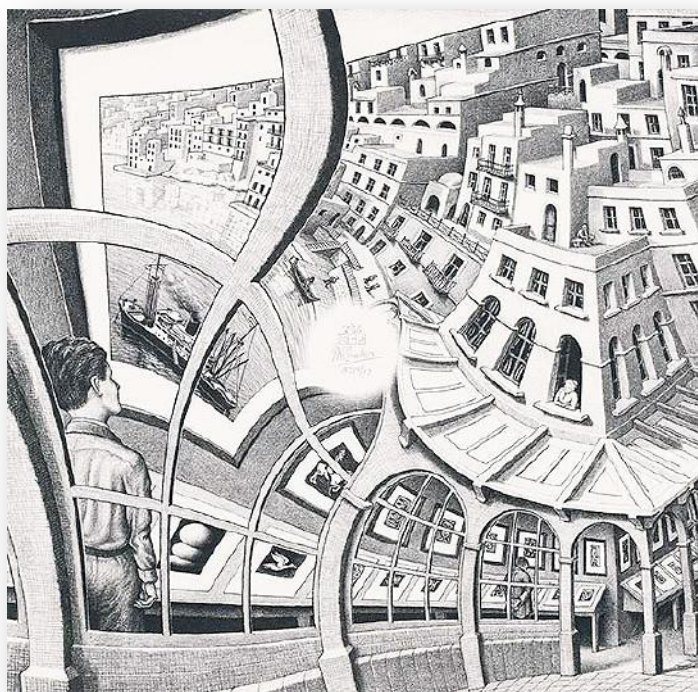


Journey To Infinity: Escher's World of Wonder

Year 5 students were given an exceptional opportunity to visit the exhibition of the works of M. C. Escher, one of the world's most famous graphic artists, at the ArtScience Museum, Marina Bay Sands.

Linked with the study of Theory of Knowledge, the exhibition showed how the ways of knowing of Imagination, Sense Perception and Emotion informed the Visual Arts. In addition, it gave evidence that Areas of Knowledge can be interdisciplinary with the Arts interfacing with Mathematics and Science.

Students stepped inside M.C. Escher's playful world of imagination and wonder - of poetic geometry, and the bending of perception with impossible constructions which defied gravity. Featuring over 150 original works, the exhibition included his early prints and drawings inspired by nature and Italy's landscape. The exhibition further explored M.C. Escher's work on tessellation and transformation of shapes illustrating how metamorphosis became a unique feature of his art where fantasy blends with geometry.



As they browsed the exhibits, students completed a worksheet prepared by Mr Peter Talbot. Here are some of the responses of our students.

Question: What knowledge do you gain from looking at Escher's work?

There are multiple perspectives in every object/situation and one look will not tell you the entirety of the story.

Noelle Chung

Question: What knowledge do you gain from looking at Escher's work?

I learnt that art and mathematics can complement each other, rather than be completely unrelated. As evidenced by works on tessellation.

M.C. Escher has integrated both art and mathematics to make widely appreciated pieces of art. I also gained the knowledge that mathematics can be used to create seemingly impossible drawings through the artistic realm.

Nathaniel Marthen

Question: How do you judge a work of art? Can you judge art objectively or is it completely subjective?



I judge an art work using my emotion. I can also judge art objectively as well. For example, the picture on the left shows symmetrical images which follows the rules of symmetry in maths.

My Han Trieu

By Mrs Rebecca Mok



Singapore Writers' Festival – Writers Visit

How does it feel not to fit in? How does it feel to be an 'other'? How does it feel to grow up in a culture where you are different?



Alice Pung, award-winning and internationally published writer, addressed these questions when she spoke to Year 5 and 6 English B students on 28 February. She visited the school as part of the Singapore Writers' Festival and delivered a talk entitled 'I am Multicultural'.

Alice Pung's parents are Chinese, but spent much of their lives in Cambodia. During the Khmer Rouge regime, they fled to Australia, where Alice was born and has lived since.

During her talk, Alice Pung spoke about how, growing up in a different culture so different to that in which her parents did, she struggled at times to connect with them and appreciate their struggles, stories and values. At the same time, she conveyed the difficulties of being different to her Australian classmates; how she would be called names, and how she gradually came to understand what these words meant. Ultimately however, it was clear from the wealth of stories that she had to share, that Alice's experiences of multiculturalism had provided her with a deep appreciation of all the cultures around her. Sometimes humorous, sometimes poignant, her stories were without doubt informative and fascinating for the IB students and teachers.

Linking her ideas to their learning of cultural diversity, the Year 5 and 6 students asked questions and reflected on these ideas, considering how what Alice Pung spoke of might be relevant in the very multicultural context of Singapore

By Ms Ceri Sinnett, Teacher of ESOL



Details of the talk are below:

<https://www.singaporewritersfestival.com/nacwgr/nacwgr/programmes/secondary-jc/I-AM-MULTICULTURAL.html>.

Further information on Alice Pung and her writing can be found on <https://www.alicepung.com/>.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH	EVENT
12 - 18	• Japan Ski Trip
20	• Term 2 Begins
23	• Parent-Teacher Meeting (8.30 – 12 noon; 1.00 – 4.00pm)
25	• Methodist Walk (All Year 1 & 2 students + staff)
31	• CAS Casual Dress Day

APRIL	EVENT
3	• Higher Education Fair (3.00pm)
8	• Open House (9.00am)
10 - 12	• Religious Emphasis Week
14	• Good Friday (school closed)

ACS (International) Parents' Prayer Group

Venue

John Wesley Hall, Level 6 Sports Block

Dates:

Thursday, 6 April 2017

Thursday, 4 May 2017

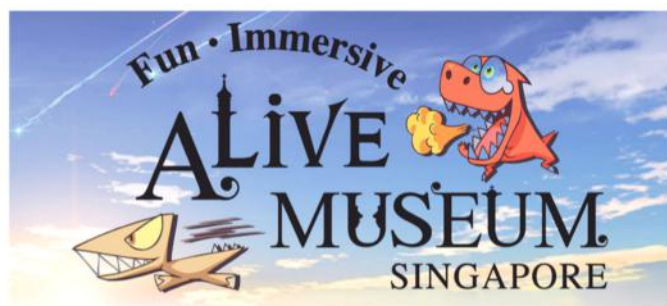
Thursday, 6 July 2017

Thursday, 3 August 2017

Thursday, 5 October 2017

Thursday, 2 November 2017

*Parents who wish to participate
please contact Heidi at 9340 5501.*



Exciting Trip To Alive Museum

Suntec City
For International Students
Date: 25 March 2017 (Saturday)
Time: 12:00—15:00
Cost: FREE!!

One way transport from school provided at 12:00

Sign up at **Office Reception** in the **General Office** by
10 March to secure your seats!!
Limited to first 40 sign-ups



University Visits In School

University of the Arts London
Wednesday , 07 March
12.00 am - 12.45 pm
Booth in the School Canteen



University of Nottingham
Thursday , 09 March
11.45 am – 12.45 pm
Booth in the School Canteen



Jacobs University, Germany
Thursday , 27 March
11.45 am – 12.45 pm
Booth in the School Canteen



Higher Education Fair 2017
Monday , 03 April
3.00 pm – 5.00 pm
Sports Hall

Higher Education Fair

Monday, 3 April 2017
3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Parents and Students - Discuss your education plans, talk to admissions officers and get some inside tips on the university application process. 30 Participating Institutions/Organizations will have booths in the Sports Hall.

NUS, NTU, SIT, SMU, SUTD, Yale-NUS are among the Institutions participating.

Dear Parents,

Good News!

This year 22 companies have agreed to become our Industry Partners for our Job Shadowing Programme.

All interested Year 6 students are invited to submit their applications for the Job Shadowing positions which will take place during the March (limited openings) and June holidays. The duration of the attachment is between 3 to 5 days.

The areas of job shadowing are:

- Architecture (2 students)
- Dental (1 student)
- Engineering (4 students)
- Human Resource (2 students)
- Law (6 students)
- Marketing (2 students)
- Media (2 students)
- Medicine (8 students)
- Real Estate (2 students)

Requirements (submitted along with application form):

- Passport sized photo
- Academic Transcript (request from the General Office)
- Copy of IGCSE/O level certificate

Deadline to submit application is 3 April 2017.

Interested students are requested to collect the application form from the Higher Education and

Careers Advisor, Ms Rita Kaur at
rita.kaur@acsinternational.com.sg.

