



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Every year the school asks Students, Staff and Parents to complete a stakeholder survey. The findings and actions of these surveys were published to each group. The Parent Survey summary from 2022, can be viewed [here](#). The results of last year's Parent Survey, which had 86 responses, led to changes such external speakers that relate better to students, restart of international trips and parent workshops on youth related issues.

The school has a set of eight Guiding Statements that aim to define what the traits of ACS (International) are and therefore what the school's "spirit" is. These Guiding Statements help keep the move forward in the right direction by providing guidance in decision-making in its day-to-day operations and in its long-term planning. The Guiding Statements fall under the categories below:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Christian Character | Student Well-Being |
| Internationalism | Staff Community |
| Student Development | Home and Community |
| Learning and Academic Achievement | Physical Environment |

The full text of the Guiding Statements can be found on the school website through [this link](#).

To reflect on these Guiding Statements, a review of their impact on students, parents and staff will be carried out over the next couple of weeks. To accomplish this, a community survey has been created that asks for feedback on the areas that the Guiding Statements refer to. The feedback from these surveys will help shape the school's 2024 objectives.

The link to the Parent Survey can be found [here](#). I would encourage you to go through the survey and provide your feedback by Friday, 22 September. Students and staff will be completing a similar survey in the same period.

As a Christian school, we must seek God's will for the school before all else. We pray for God's guidance, wisdom and discernment as we enter into this review process. We pray that ACS (International) will continue to serve His purpose and be faithful to the founding mission and principles of the school both now and into the future.

Gavin Kinch
Principal

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STAFF NEWS**New Staff**

Name	Department / Designation	Start Date
Ms A'mirah Binte Abdul Rashid	Science Laboratory / Laboratory Technician	4 September 2023

NOTICES**September Holiday Classes**

Year 4					
Teacher	Class	Venue	Date	Time	Remarks
Olger Portilla	4SL1	NB301	7 September	1000h – 1130h	Oral Practice
David Fillary	Additional Maths	OB2-1	14 September	0900h – 1100h	Revision
Tien Chan	Business Cohort	NB 01-04	15 September	1000h – 1200h	Exam Techniques

Year 6					
Teacher	Class	Venue	Date	Time	Remarks
Oh Eun Jeong	6KLiHS1	NB308	1 September	1000h – 1200h	Paper 1 Revision
			6 September		
Koh Leng Khim	6CBSL1	LB409	2 September	1000h – 1200h	Paper 1 Revision
Miho Tsumura	6JLiHS1	NB305	5 September	1000h – 1200h	Revision
Oh Eun Jeong	6KLiHS1	NB308	14 September	1000h – 1200h	Paper 2 Revision
Jasmine Teo	6AAHL3	Google Meet	7 & 15 September	1000h – 1200h	Consultation

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Brothers Excel At International High School Debate Competition

Brothers Jayden Budiman (3 SVM) and Jacob Budiman (2 SVM) did ACS (International) proud when they represented the school at the National High School Debate League of China (NHS DLC) competitions. The National High School Debate League of China, or simply NHS DLC, is an English-language high school league serving Mainland China. Each year, the NHS DLC sees around 50,000 students participate in its debate workshops and around 12,000 students participate in its regional or national tournaments that it hosts in more than 33 cities in China.

Jayden competed with senior high school students from all over China and was a finalist at the NHS DLC National Championships 2023.

Jacob Budiman also competed with high school students from all over China and was a semi-finalist at the NHS DLC Junior WSD National Championships 2023. He was also among the top 10 speakers in the tournament.

Their mother, Ms Widia Budiman, said: "They (Jacob and Jayden) had an amazing experienced through joining this debate competition. They could not have made it this far without support from ACS (International)! Thanks again."



Singapore Mathematical Olympiad 2023

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

On 30 May and 31 May 2023, 40 students (Years 1 to 6) from ACS (International) took part in SMO 2023. The list of winners for ACS (International) is below.

Results Summary 2023

Item	Junior	Senior	Open
Gold	0	0	0
Silver	0	1	1
Bronze	2	4	0
Honourable Mention	3	2	2

NAME	DIVISION	CERTIFICATE
SMO (Junior) Results		
Quan Ruochen	Year 3	Bronze
Maximus Hartanto	Year 3	Bronze
Wang Yuehan	Year 1	Honourable Mention
Lee Kangmin	Year 2	Honourable Mention
Hanrong Luo	Year 2	Honourable Mention
SMO (Senior) Results		
Zhen Jingtong	Year 2	Silver
Geonwoo Sung	Year 3	Bronze
Lee Dong Hun	Year 3	Bronze
Wu Youchen	Year 3	Bronze
Acharekar Om Nitin	Year 5	Bronze
Pasquale Wong Wei Zhe	Year 3	Honourable Mention
Tianrui Qi	Year 4	Honourable Mention
SMO (Open) Results		
Kim Minwoo	Year 5	Silver
Kazuki Baba	Year 6	Honourable Mention
Conrad Trey Indradjaja	Year 6	Honourable Mention

Outstanding Science Achievements For ACS (International)

The Vanda Science International Competition is an annual event that allows young minds from Grade 3 through Secondary 4 from around the globe to demonstrate their higher-order thinking skills within the context of the Singapore School Science Syllabus. This year's competition was held on 7 July and the following students performed admirably.

Gold

Year 3

Chee Wai Tong
Global Rank 13
3rd Place in Singapore

Wu Youchen
Global Rank 25
5th Place in Singapore

Silver

Year 1

Kimberly Ann Hendroff
8th Place in Singapore

Year 2

Kayla Goh Jia En
8th Place in Singapore

Year 3

Cheng Tin Wing
Hyun Minsung
Joann Maria Jacob

Bronze

Year 1

Cartesia Cho Jia Wen
Harshni Sivasubramanian
Wee Kang Qing

Year 2

Park Yoonha
Clayton Oliver Wibowo

Year 3

Tian Roumeng
Nishya Subash Prabu

Honorable Mention

Year 1

Aanya Kapoor

Certificate of Participation

Year 1

Wong Jules Tsu

Year 2

Kim Yejin
Aubrey Rose McClung Jianzi Meishi
Lenci Goh Pei Yuan

ACS (International) also had 17 participants from Years 5 and 6 in the LKC Medicine Anatomy Challenge 2023 held at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine on 2 April. Adam Zhang Yunan obtained a Certificate of Merit.

Our students also took part in the Singapore Physics League (Senior Category) 2023 competition, and they achieved the following results:

Honorable Mention

Cheng Tin Wing
Joann Maria Jacob
Kyra Lim
Weizheng Liu
Cheng Shizhao
Kannasoot Iyakarn
Ren Ziming
Zee Yuet Yi, Audrey

Bronze

Wu Youchen
Bono Jakub Gajdek

Team Einstein (Honorable Mention)

Lee Hyeonjoon
Shunsei Miyasara
Weizheng Liu
Wong Wei Zhe

We won a Silver and Bronze at the Singapore Junior Biology Olympiad, and a Bronze award at the Singapore Junior Chemistry Olympiad.

The Singapore Junior Physics Olympiad also netted 3 Bronze awards, 8 individual Honorable Mentions, and 10 individual Certificates of Participation. One of our teams netted a team Honorable Mention, and 4 other teams received Certificates of Participation.

ACS (International) also obtained 2 Silver awards at the British Biology Olympiad, as well as 4 Bronze awards, 5 Highly Commended awards, 1 Commended award, and 15 Certificates of Participation.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

A Musical Odyssey

On 12 August 2023, the ACS (International) Philharmonic Orchestra, accompanied by our Contemporary Singers, performed A Musical Odyssey, its second live performance since the COVID-19 pandemic, at the Ho Bee Auditorium in NUS University Cultural Centre. Throughout the first half of the performance, the Philharmonic Orchestra played a series of tunes illustrating a universe of creativity and imagination. As the first half came to an end, a mash-up of Romanian songs by Bèla Bartok was played in multiple different metres. This section of the performance ended with a classic song from the 80's creating an upbeat, rhythmic energy, and ended the set with a bang. As the second part of the performance began, the orchestra welcomed everyone back with an exciting and energetic song by the percussionists and woodwind players which grabbed the audience's attention. This fun, uplifting song was followed by a more familiar tune "What a Wonderful World", performed by the wind band and solo alto saxophone.

The orchestra then had a segment of a short, high-energy medley of popular songs in the entertaining Shrek Dance Party. This was then followed by Tico, Tico, an interesting number known for its syncopated rhythms and melodic variations. The percussionists brought joyful energy to the audience, even engaging with the audience as the instructor encouraged everyone to clap along to the beat of the song. Then it was time for the Contemporary Singers Ensemble to shine. They sang Taylor Swift's classic fairy-tale romance song Love Story with beautiful harmonies and they even amused the audience when one of the male singers got down on one knee and pretended to propose, alluding to the lyrics of the song. They then ended their performance with the timeless song, Seasons of Love, which brought out the singers' seamless harmonies. Then came Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence, a tribute to the late Ryuichi Sakamoto who was the composer of the piece. As the performance closed, the audience cheered for an encore and the orchestra performed their last song, Jacques Offenbach's Galop Infernal from [Orpheus in the Underworld](#), a catchy, uplifting song which left the audience in high spirits.

We thank Maestro Lim Soon Lee and Ms Samantha Chong for their guidance and unrelenting support for the Orchestra's development. We also thank Mr Lim Tse Ren, Mr Chang Weng Moon, Mr Jacob Henstridge, Ms Carol Ling, Ms Jasmine Teo, and Ms Grace Lim, for their guidance throughout all orchestra activities. We also render our heartfelt thanks Ms Freda Lim, Ms Jamuna Madhav, and Ms Ivana Choo, for developing the Contemporary Singers.



Orientation In July

The 19th Student Council organised and hosted Orientation 2 for 2023 on 4 July, and we proudly welcomed 14 new students to ACS (International). With the assistance of our House Captains and 19th Prefectorial Board Exco, we successfully coordinated a highly enjoyable event to ensure that the new students would have a pleasant experience throughout their time at our school. We first held an informative session where we presented a video showcasing the school's history and introduced them to the school Houses. Shortly afterwards, we initiated icebreaker games to facilitate introductions and encourage interaction between the new students and the prefects. These activities effectively broke the initial barriers and resulted in an atmosphere filled with smiles and laughter. We proceeded with additional bonding games, both dry and wet, to give the students a taste of the fun they can expect at ACS.

We later conducted a comprehensive school tour for the new students to familiarise them with different parts of the school and even showed them around Holland Village, where we split into different groups for lunch. That way, the new students got to know one another better, and also got to know the prefects better too!

On behalf of the 19th Student Council, we sincerely hope that the new students have had an exceptional beginning to their journey at ACS (International). We trust that this successful event will be a memorable experience for them!

Katherine Mandagi (5 TCT)



Language Week 2023: A Festive Rhapsody

The theme for Language Week at ACS (International) this year is Festivals. As we embarked on a journey to learn about festivals from around the world, we were awed by the similarities and differences of some festivals.

The Year 2 students signed up for festive food making workshops kindly run by the Parent School Partners as we turned mundane classroom routines into aromatic cooking adventures. Lessons had never been so fun, and tasty - a student remarked. On Wednesday during school assembly, we gathered to enjoy a video where we interviewed staff and students about festivals from their culture, and posters made by students were exhibited at the Student Centre. We marvel at the world heritage that we are part of.



Congratulations to the Winners of the Poster Competition.

Most Popular Posters

Poster 6 重阳节

Yu Haoxuan (3 LSG)
Song Yuhan (3 LSG)
Chen Xi (3 TCT)

Poster 3 中国春节VS圣诞节

Chen Yalan (3 THO)
Ding Yuxun (3 SVM)
Yang Bingyi (3 SVM)

Poster 5 Jeju Tangerine Festival

Choi Haeram (4 SVM)
Yun Seojin (4 THO)

Posters with Best Content

Poster 40 亡灵节

Tian Ruomeng (3 GHK)
Qin Xuan (3 OLD)
Li Jiaqi (3 TKK)
Gao Jiaqi (3 THO)

Poster 31 Culture Storage

Park Yeji (3 OLD)
Koo Minseo (3 OLD)
Song Hyunyeon (3 TCT)

Poster 7 女儿节

Lim Kay An (3 TCT)
Low Shannon Qi En (3 CKS)
Lim Isabel Frances Hui Ching (3 TKK)

Posters with Best Visual Presentation

Poster 2 情人节VS七夕节

Jin Zixuan (3 TKK)
Zhou Yixuan (3 CKS)
Lin Ziting (3 CKS)

Poster 1 Snow Crab Festival

Lee Yeseo (4 OLD)
Lee Seungwon (4 OLD)
Hwang Jiwoo (4 CKS)
Choi Yeonwoo (4 GHK)

Poster 14 Water Bomb

Cho Yejin (3 LSG)
Lee Jimin (3 CKS)

From making the Language Week video, I learnt a lot about different cultures in the world. For example, the cheese rolling festival is something new to me. In the process, I also made new friends from different backgrounds. It was a great experience.

Cheng Tin Yui (5 TKK)

Language week is an important event celebrated in school. During this week, students have a precious opportunity to dive into diverse cultures and explore through it. Thankfully, I had a chance to organise a Language Week presentation with other students on 2 August. With passionate and energetic teammates, three of us came up with different ideas. We want to embrace cultural diversity and respectfulness at the same time. After a long conversation, we agreed that greeting in different languages would be great to catch people's attention. This is how Indonesian came up to speak in Chinese, Korean spoke in Malay, and finally, Singaporean spoke in Korean. During the event, I could feel the open atmosphere in ACS, and was surprised at how students are so interested and wanting to learn about other traditions besides their own.

Chung Dayon (3 TKK)

During the Festive Food Making Workshop, I have chosen to learn how to make Chicken Lemper from Indonesia, which had a savoury taste, was sweet on the outside as it was made with glutinous coconut rice, and was salty on the inside with shredded chicken to balance the ratio of sweetness to saltiness. I had never eaten or made it before; therefore, my curiosity grew when I first entered the classroom, as I had no clue what a "Chicken Lemper" was. At first, I was confused with the steps, but the PSP team helped me through all the steps to get a savoury taste of the Chicken Lemper. The team who was assigned in Indonesia was outstanding in their knowledge and background of the Chicken Lemper, and throughout the whole session, I learned a few things, such as that it was served as a snack in Indonesia and that it was wrapped in Banana leaf to give it the aromatic smell of the chicken Lemper. As the session came to an end, I was very thankful to the PSP team, as I had learned about one of Indonesia's unique and flavourful snacks.

Shunsei Narita (2 THO)

Not all knowledge exists in books and worksheets. Culture is best understood when experienced and what better way to understand it through its cuisine. ACS students and teachers learnt about Indian culture and sampled scrumptious food in an interactive session with parent volunteers during the language week. Demonstrating quick and easy recipes in a fun and engaging way was a cherish-able experience for the parent volunteers.

Indian Mango Pleasures Team

The food demonstrations was a huge hit with the students. It is so heartwarming to see parents, teachers and the school leaders make learning fun and engaging for our kids.

Indonesian Lemper Team

Different festivals in each country have different meanings. We decided on comparing the Spring Festival from China and Christmas from Western countries. In this regard, we did not only focus on detailed information about each festival, but also compared the differentials between the two festivals. Since all of our team members are Chinese, we did not have a thorough understanding on western festivals. Therefore, through this activity, despite that we learned more about Christmas, we also expanded our knowledge of some other special western festivals. This made us even more curious about learning other cultures, and we also reflected the importance of ACS's international identity. We hope there will be more activities in the future to let us know about the various countries and their cultures. Finally, thanks to all the people who voted for us, it makes us feel great on being rewarded for the hard work that we have done.

Yang Bingyi (3 SVM), Chen Yalan (3 THO), Ding Yixun (3 SVM)

The students were very enthusiastic in learning and very cooperative during the demonstration. We shared some Chinese cultural cuisine with them. Hope we have more opportunity to share with the students!

Chinese Bingtanghulu and Jiaozi Teams

It was great to have the opportunity to introduce Korean food to international students during Language Week. It was heartwarming to see students and teachers enjoying the process of making Kimbap and Injeolmi with us. We were delighted to see both students and teachers eagerly pounding hard on their rice to create the perfect texture of rice cakes when making Injeolmi. Equal parts stress relief and fun for everyone!

Korean Kimbap and Injeolmi Team

Today's language week's activity was a unique way of teaching the cultures of different countries. The students literally had a hands-on experience of the foods of various countries, and they enthusiastically participated in its preparation too. It was lovely to see the Principal, Teachers and Team joining in the event.

Indian Sev Batata Puri Team

We were very happy to be able to make takoyaki with the ACS students. We were grateful for the opportunity to see the students actively making takoyaki and eating them with such relish. We hope they will share this experience with their family members.

Japanese Takoyaki team

Thoburn House Charity Initiatives For 2023

A group of Thoburn House students organised an amazing initiative when they invested their time and energy in their inspiring dedication to the charity cause. These students have shown exceptional commitment by participating in workshops organized by Hi-Story, a non-profit organisation committed to empowering individuals from vulnerable communities. Skilfully led by facilitators from Hi-story and refugees who have faced immense challenges, these workshops highlighted the importance of compassion and learning from diverse life experiences. Our students' participation in these workshops showcased their commitment to our Thoburn House charity cause and their eagerness to engage with the broader world and make a positive impact.

During the workshops, our students had the privilege of learning from various instructors, including a refugee from Iraq who had been displaced in an IDP camp. They also had the opportunity to learn from an Afghan refugee couple in Indonesia, who shared their expertise in creating captivating copper wire decorative trees. These sessions were more than just skill-building; they facilitated heart-warming connections and meaningful bonding experiences for our students and the dedicated instructors. Thoburn House tutors and students were deeply moved by these workshops, which expanded their skill sets and enriched their understanding of the resilience of individuals from diverse backgrounds. The sense of unity and empathy that arose from these interactions is a testament to the power of human connection and the potential for positive change.



19th Prefectorial Board Leadership Camp

The 19th Prefectorial Board Leadership Camp was held at Sentosa on Saturday 5 August. The members of the Prefectorial Board participated in a number of activities led by an external vendor, Camp Challenge Pte. Ltd., which included icebreakers, building, testing and racing of a raft, and last but not least, a reflection on the improvement of their leadership traits by using the MICEE leadership model.

Of these five leadership practices, we felt that the “enable others to act” practice was most exemplified by the Prefects during the camp. We collaboratively encouraged one another to contribute ideas, cheered one another on throughout the races, and celebrated every group's successes and struggles during the camp challenges.

The activities organised provided opportunities for the Prefects to foster closer relationships that surpassed the boundaries of our respective committees, as this was our first full board bonding activity. Through this experience, we were able to enjoy an enriching day filled with excitement, connection, and the strengthening of our leadership abilities.

The main activity of building, testing, and racing with the raft was crucial in allowing the Prefects to build trust and effective communication, both of which are essential skills in leadership. We were also able to enjoy healthy competition, which bolstered our team spirit and morale. It was an unforgettable event that the 19th Prefectorial Board will cherish for the years to come.

We sincerely thank Mrs Tan Siew Hoon and the teachers of the Prefectorial Board for facilitating and helping us organise this successful event. We will continue to embody the lessons that we learned during the camp and will employ them in our future endeavours!

Ashley Mya Gozali (5 TCT) and David Kim (5 SVM)



Interact Leadership Training Camp 2023

The Interact Leadership Training Camp was held on 29 & 30 July 2023 by Rotary Singapore and Youth Corps Singapore. Held at MDIS Singapore, this camp has definitely brought a new perspective to service work and community for the Interact Club EXCO members.

Each one of us has learnt meaningful skills and have gotten the opportunity to broaden our relationship with the community. These activities included intercultural dialogue and volunteerism for social inclusion. We also honed our leadership development skills by networking with the Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, and Teacher Advisors of both the local and international schools.

This curated camp greatly benefitted us all and I am honoured to have the opportunity to be a part of this camp and the Rotary Alumni. I was able to represent ACS (International) to speak for young leaders by advocating how they could help bridge the gap between individual Interact clubs and the community.

One lasting project that I want to share about is the combination project that we are in the midst of planning with ACS (Independent) and ACJC. This combination project among the schools is organised to give back to a wider community and to help support each other's school Interact clubs. This is a great opportunity for us students to widen our service work skills and our interaction with the community.

All in all, the Interact Leadership Training Camp 2023 has brought each of us a new insight on our impact to the community and has given us many opportunities to express our leadership skills.

Sarisha Perera
Interact Club President



Interact Club Service Project With The Down Syndrome Association Singapore

On 19 May, our school-based Interact Club project “We Bridge” organised a group volunteering activity with the Down Syndrome Association. This was a remarkable and memorable session and a great success.

We began planning the event almost a month before the session since our group did not want to be too stressed as it was our first time connecting with Down Syndrome groups, so we may all be kind of over-stressed. Our group had several meetings on designing activities, selection of volunteers, and some pre-education before we went there. I am thankful that the Association gave us chances to get to know Down Syndrome groups more, and I’m glad I learnt how to respectfully make friends with them. On the day of our first activity, one of the volunteers was suddenly unable to join us due to some academic issues, but we managed to deal with the emergency well since we already knew one another’s roles. From that session I learnt that people with Down syndrome symptoms are no different from us and are kind, simple-minded, and nice towards people that treat them well too. I felt relaxed with them as I felt that they have no double standards, ask nothing from us and love to play with us wholeheartedly. They are like the symbols of pure human kindness. This was a fantastic experience as I met more groups of people, broadened my perspective, and most importantly, had the chance to forever be rid of my stereotypes towards people with Down Syndrome.

Zhang Xiaoyu
Interact Club

ACS INT. BLOOD DRIVE

19 SEPT, 11AM TO 5PM AT WESLEY HALL (LB LVL6)

WHO CAN DONATE BLOOD?

1. Students aged 16 - 17 (with parental consent)
2. All staff under the age of 60
3. Parents of students
4. Members of the HVMC



**A SINGLE
PINT OF
BLOOD
SAVES UP
TO 3
PEOPLE.**



DONATIONS:
Top 30 largest donations will receive a FREE tote bag!

Monetary donations are accepted via the QR code provided above. Physical cash donations can be made on 19 Sept at Wesley Hall directly to Red Cross Volunteers present at the venue



Take the eligibility test



Sign-up form

For more information, contact sajisha.pereira@acsinternational.edu.sg

PPG NEWS

PPG Prayer Walk July 2023

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,” (Hebrews 10:24, NKJV)

As we started a new term, ACS (International) Parents Prayer Group (PPG) came together on a beautiful sunny Thursday morning in July for our monthly meeting with sharing by Pastor Loretta Lim on how to be victorious in life. After a short drizzle in the morning, all the parents were excited to walking around the different locations in the school and to pray together in unity for the school. The parents split up into smaller groups to cover the Heritage Foyer, Oldham Chapel, Quadrangle surrounded by classrooms, Canteen, Sports Hall and The Darren Loh Library Block. It was such a meaningful activity as it fostered a sense of community and support.



We look forward to our next meeting on Thursday, 5 October for our PPG meeting from 8am to 9.15am.

This will be followed by Parent Bonding event — Prophetic Art — from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Please contact Evelyn at 94889556 if you are interested to join.

Evelyn Lek
Parent Support Partners

International Day 2023 – Together in Diversity, United as One

On 8 August, more than 70 parent volunteers banded together to deliver a bigger and more vibrant atmosphere to the International Day. The much-anticipated event featured 9 country stalls and one bubble tea stall sponsored by the Holland Village Methodist Church. “International Day at (ACS International) was such a festive way to celebrate and share communities and culture. It felt like we were bringing the world to our little enclave at Holland Village”, said Ms Bik Khoo who has two children in Year 3 and Year 4. Preparations for International Day started four months ago, with many parent volunteers actively planning and sourcing for costumes, food and decorative items from their home countries during the June holidays to offer at their various country stalls. “Parents went out of their way to make the event festive and memorable. Taking the stall design to the next level, we saw many vibrant designs representative of the countries’ unique cultures and vibes. The food was also curated to our students and staff liking”, said Ms Cherry, a parent volunteer from the Philippines.

At 9.30am, students and staff streamed into the food tentage at ACS (International) in their bright and beautiful national costumes and were warmly treated to a fiesta of yummy food and beverages from the Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, USA, Mexico, India and the United Kingdom stalls. Students brought their own reusable containers and cutleries in support of PSP’s “Going Zero Waste” campaign to encourage environmental sustainability. “The most memorable part was seeing all the different cultures in one place and trying all the amazing food. I was happy that my country (Malaysia) was represented, and we can share our food with my friends,” said Pasquala Wong (3 OLD). Besides the food stalls, there were also other activities organized for the students in the classrooms. Year Two students Rayanna Jamaji (2 SVM) and Thea Wey (2 THO) tried salsa dancing for the first time and had a ball with it.

Ms Meenakshi Sarup, a first-time volunteer and mother to a Year 3 LSG student said that the event was fun for both students and parents. She said: “I made new friendships that I hope will continue for months to come”. To all the wonderful and amazing parent volunteers, thank you for making this event a resounding success and a memorable experience for our 1,250 students, teachers and staff.

*Mdm Carol Teo
Parent of Lindsay Seow (2 OLD)*





Year 4 & 5 Parents Casual Coffee Meet-Up

After a restful National Day 2023, the parents were up early the following morning for our coffee meet-up at Baker & Cook at Holland Village. The desire to connect was clear right from the start, when most of us parents took up the two biggest communal tables to get to know everyone better. As with coffee catch-ups among good friends, the three hours flew by fast, a valuable time to connect with other parents after the COVID-19 pandemic and cherish the shared experiences of our children going through Years 4 and 5 at ACS (International).

It was a bonus when the principal of ACS (International), Mr Gavin Kinch, joined us for breakfast. We appreciate having a school principal who personally interacts with parents to hear their feedback, worries and give reassurance.

To the Year 4 parents whose children will go through internal exams and IGCSE this year, we wish them all the best in the coming months! For the Year 5 parents who see their children getting busier to fulfil their IB requirements, it helps to know that this experience will train them to take on bigger tasks next year.



With a positive environment and lots of encouragement, our children can make it! It's a joy to support them in this important period. ACS (International) will be holding study nights every Tuesday and Thursday from 26 September onwards, so the students can look out for an enjoyable experience studying with friends in school come September!

Cherry Bodestyne Siow
Parent Support Partners



Experiencing A Taste Of College Life

Over the summer of 2023, I had the honour of attending the Harvard Pre-College Program on campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The whole process began when I wanted to experience a taste of college life and what my day would look like as an international college student living far away from the comforts of my home. When I started researching, I came across this two-week course that allowed me to explore this idea and so I decided to apply on a whim without any expectations of being admitted in. The application criteria not only included consistent grades but also required me to write four essays that led me to do a lot of self-reflection and discovery which I found to be very enjoyable. For example, my favourite essay question to answer was “Reflect on a book you have read or a film you have seen where you strongly related to a character. State and describe the character, their traits and significance, and how they personify you.”

I opted to study “Introduction to Neurobiology” at the Harvard Pre-College Program where I performed brain dissections and other different experiments such as pulling the legs off live crickets in order to observe their neuronal pathways, manipulating the taste receptors on my tongue through miracle berries and observing the action potentials during muscle contractions. Other than my course curriculum, I also had the chance to encounter several perks of living on my own in a completely different country such as managing my finances, doing my own laundry, finding a cheap place to eat every day, managing my social life and my studies and just always having to be completely responsible wherever I go and whomever I go with. Through my experiences, I discovered that it is difficult to be an international student because you constantly feel like you are in unknown territory and that can be scary at times. Yet I still believe that living alone is the most enriching experience one can have, especially at a young age. It gives you the freedom to explore the world through your eyes, enriches your thoughts, perspectives, demeanour and completely changes the way you perceive others. If I had to sum all of it up in just one word, it would be “liberating”. I thoroughly enjoyed being able to reinvent myself to hopefully a better version and am certainly looking forward to doing it again very soon.

Advika Karthik Iyer (5 CKS)



UPCOMING EVENTS

August	Event
26	Choice To Run
29	Barrett Music Competition
30	Assembly: Commendation
	ESOL Research Exhibition (Year 3 and Pre-IB)
31	Teacher's Day celebrations
September	Event
1	Public Holiday
4 – 17	Term Break
19	TedX @ ACS (International)
20	Opening of Year 6 IB Visual Arts Exhibition
	IGCSE French/Spanish Oral Exams
21	Year 6 IB Solo Theatre
22	Custodians Appreciation Day
25	O level Chinese B Oral Exam
25 – 30	School Visit for Health Screening Commences
26	Year 4 and Year 6 Study Night Begins (every Tuesday and Thursday, 6pm – 8pm)
27	Year 4 Last Day
28 – 29	Year 5 Language B (Chinese/Malay/Tamil) Prelim Paper 1
29	Year 4 IGCSE PE Moderation Day (including some Year 3)



GRADUATION CEREMONY



10 NOVEMBER
2023

FRIDAY
4:30PM (Seated by 4:15PM)

at UNIVERSITY CULTURAL CENTRE, HO BEE AUDITORIUM,
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE



RSVP and ticket request via <https://forms.gle/qLKHYCVX5amWhj2z9>
or QR Code by 4 November 2023.
For enquiry, please contact the Principal's Secretary: stella.sim@acsinternational.edu.sg