



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Students, Parents and Friends,

Welcome to the 2024 academic year. I trust that you and your family were able to have a restful break over Christmas.

During the December break I went back home to Adelaide to see the family and returned to Singapore on 2 January. While travelling back on SQ278, I sat next to a young lady who was writing out her goals for the year in a notebook. While trying not to be too nosy, I couldn't help but look over and see what she was writing down. In her notebook she was creating a dot point list of the goals she wanted to achieve for the year. Her goals included tangible outcomes and non-tangible ones such as qualities she wanted to develop. This degree of planning inspired me to speak to our students in the first few weeks about goal setting for the year. The aim of this is to focus their attention and to have something to check at various stages throughout the year to see how they are progressing. If you have a chance, ask your child if they have written out their goals for the year, like Mr Kinch suggested!

Proverbs 16:3, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans." reminds us that by committing our endeavours to the Lord, our plans find a solid foundation. As we embark on this academic year, we encourage our students to integrate this wisdom into their planning processes. Setting realistic goals is a crucial step in the planning journey. We emphasise the importance of balance and attainability in the pursuit of aspirations. Whether academic or personal, goals that align with individual strengths and challenges create a roadmap for success.

Proverbs 16:3 encourages our students to commit their aspirations to the Lord, recognising that through this commitment, their plans find a firm foundation. This commitment empowers them not only to set realistic goals but also to confidently navigate the path to achievement. Our holistic approach ensures that success is not only academic but also personal and spiritual.

At a school level, we will commence our strategic planning process that will set our aims and objectives for the next few years. In addition to this, the staff and leadership will be planning for the upcoming International Schools (CIS) visit and the International Baccalaureate (IB) review which will occur in 2025. In light of Proverbs 16:3, our journey toward these goals involves meticulous planning and acknowledging the divine guidance that supports our endeavours.

At ACS (International), we understand the significance of community collaboration in the planning process. Proverbs 16:3 guides not only our individual endeavours but also in our collective commitment to progress. Throughout this year there will be opportunities for students, teachers, and parents to participate in our planning, so that we get a diverse set of perspectives as we collectively shape the future.

As we commence this year and make our plans, I ask for the school community to continue to pray for the school as it seeks to implement the vision.

Gavin Kinch
Principal

[New Staff](#)

[IBDP Examination 2023 Results](#)

[Drop Off and Pick Up from School](#)

[13th Student Ambassadors Volunteered with](#)

[Habitat for Humanity](#)

[Orientation](#)

[PSP at New Student Orientation](#)

[Welcome Blessing Notes from the](#)

[Parents Prayer Group](#)

[First Parents Prayer Meeting of 2024](#)

[Calculators for IGCSE & IB Students](#)

[Term 4 Birthday Celebration with Boarders at](#)

[Oldham Hall](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

STAFF NEWS

New Staff

New Staff	Department	Designation
Junita Devi Sockalingam	Higher Education	Head of Higher Education and Careers
Shirlene Kok Kwee Bee	Humanities	Teacher of History
Tulika Dhanuka	Humanities	Teacher of Psychology
Pattnaik Krushna Charan Prasad	Humanities	Teacher of Economics
Juan Carlos Lopez	Languages	Teacher of Spanish
Helen Qin Hailan	Languages	Teacher of Chinese
Maggie Ou Jingru	Languages	Teacher of Chinese
Samuel Lee Tzi Yew	Maths	Teacher of Mathematics
Barry Lim	Maths	Teacher of Mathematics
Joyce Quek Jia Xin	Maths	Teacher of Mathematics
Wong Wai Chuan	Laboratory	Laboratory Technician
Muhammad Zulkarnaen Bin Saleh	Laboratory	Laboratory Technician

IBDP Examination 2023 Results

ACS (International) students achieved a pass rate of 96.55% and an average score of 36.09 for the IBDP. This average is likely to be revised upwards after the appeal process is completed.

More than 90% of students scored above the world average of 30.24 (May figure), and 19.5% of students achieved a score of 40 or more.

The following students achieved a perfect score of 45 points for the IBDP examination:

- Conrad Trey Indradjaja – Indonesia
- Eunwoo Jung – South Korea
- Dayoun Moon – South Korea

The top performing subjects, defined by over 50% of students achieving a grade 7, are as follows:

- Chinese B – Higher Level
- Chinese B – Standard Level
- Business Management – Higher Level
- Mandarin Ab Initio – Standard Level
- Theatre – Higher Level

Congratulations to the students for all their achievements. The school offers its thanks and appreciation to all the staff for the hard work they put into these students during their time with the school.

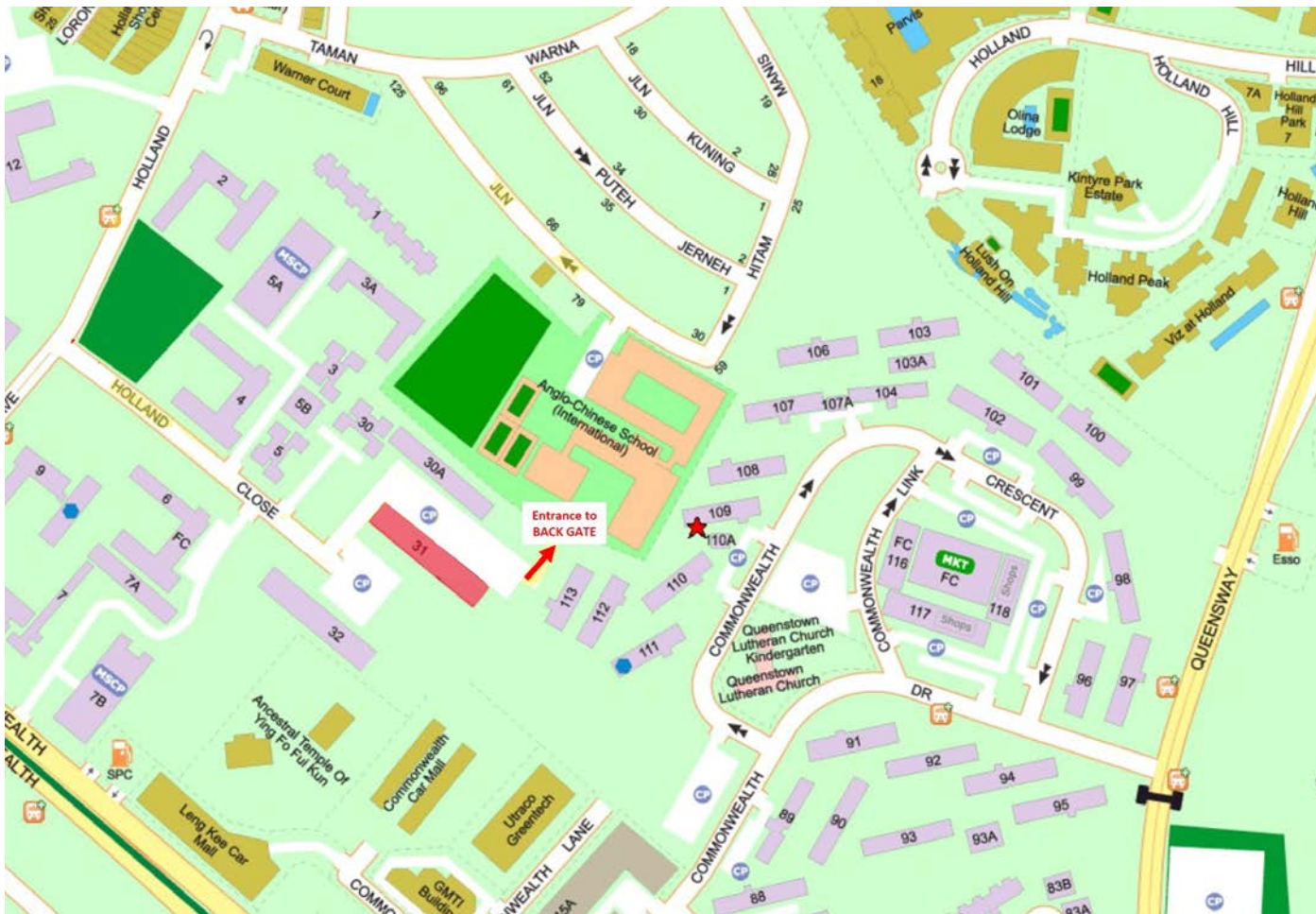


Jung Eunwoo receiving her '45 pointer' certificate from Mr Gavin Kinch, Principal of ACS (International) during Assembly on 24 January 2024

Drop Off and Pick Up from School

For the safety of all, we seek the co-operation of all parents driving to school to exercise care and consideration by adhering to the following:

- Turn off your engines when waiting to pick up your child from school. With many cars waiting outside the school, the noise of car engines can be quite disturbing to the residents.
- Drive at a safe speed that is below the legal speed limit along the roads near school. The pavements are narrow and often blocked which results in pedestrians, including young children, having to walk on the road. Drivers should be mindful of this and reduce their speed.
- Reduce speed when it is raining in order not to spray puddles of water at students and members of the public who are walking close by.
- Refrain from waiting/parking illegally. It is an offence to park/wait on either side of a road demarcated by a continuous white line or double yellow lines.
- Please do not beep your horn to get your child's attention; this is a noise nuisance to our neighbours.
- Plan your pick-up time with your child to reduce the queuing/waiting time along the road.
- Avoid arriving earlier than the scheduled school dismissal time.
- Do not park in front of the access of any residential unit.
- Be considerate and allow cars from side roads access into the car queue waiting to exit to Holland Village.
- Parents are encouraged to make use of the back gate (Gate C) via Holland Close as a much less congested alternative to drop off your child (see below map for details).



13th Student Ambassadors Volunteered with Habitat for Humanity

This year, the 13th Student Ambassadors managed to raise \$26,095 for Habitat for Humanity Singapore through its annual fundraiser Choice To Run 2023. As part of our effort to better grasp the work of Habitat for Humanity Singapore and its impact, we participated in the local Project HomeWorks program on Saturday 11 November 2023, under the guidance of volunteer leader Mr Chen.

We were split into two teams, and my team, consisting of five students and a teacher, took on the task of cleaning the kitchen for a low-income family. What seemed like a simple job turned out to be more complex than expected.

We spent a significant amount of time decluttering the kitchen, getting rid of expired goods and unused kitchen equipment. We noticed an abundance of items like big bottles of oil, detergents, and instant noodles, many of which were long past their expiry dates. Surprisingly, these turned out to be gifts from other charity organisations, intended to help the family but gathering dust instead. Once the kitchen was cleared, we worked together to clean it thoroughly. We split tasks, with someone washing dishes, others cleaning tiles and the stove, and some sweeping and mopping the floor. Teamwork played a part, and we managed to get the kitchen in order despite needing to take short breaks as the task appeared quite overwhelming for us.

A noteworthy moment was when Mr. Chen convinced the homeowner to let go of a rusty oven. It made us realise that some families hold onto things for a sense of security, a point we were briefed about earlier but hadn't fully understood until now.

Seeing the struggles this family faced made me more grateful for what I have. It reinforced the importance of resilience and the collective goal of helping the community. It also opened our eyes and taught us to empathise with the family's situation and appreciate the impact of lending a helping hand. I am glad we spent a meaningful morning in this way.

Mohit Kamaraj (5 SVM)



Orientation

On 4 January 2024, ACS (International) welcomed over 240 new students in a dynamic and engaging Orientation. Our theme for this year was “Gemstones”, in accordance with the idea that each gemstone has their own special significance and unique origins, holding true to the testament that while our students all come from different parts of the world, we still all shine brightly together.

Each group, guided solely by their dedicated Orientation Group Leaders (OGLs), navigated the day's events, which were geared towards enhancing team spirit and collaboration. The activities challenged the students to work together effectively, promoting unity and competition, as they aimed to triumph over the other groups in a spirited display of camaraderie and school spirit.

The atmosphere was charged with an infectious energy and as the new students gathered, with smiles on their faces, there was a sense of community and school spirit. As the orientation progressed, it was clear that the bonds formed between the orientees were more than brief, surface-level connections but were instead strong like those of a diamond.

The grand finale of our orientation was a jubilant celebration, marked by spirited group cheer competitions that echoed with the enthusiastic energy of unity and camaraderie. This was followed by a dance by the students to the song “Dance the Night”, showcasing the talent and the friends they made along the way. The finale, with its cheers and dance, encapsulated the essence of our shared spirit, leaving an indelible mark on the memories of our orientation.

The success of this year's orientation can be credited to collaboration, adaptability, and perseverance. We hope that all our incoming students have enjoyed orientation, and we pray that their time with the school will be inspiring, empowering, and fulfilling.

Bethany Tan (6 TCT)

Chiang Yee (6 OLD)

Evan Lim (6 THO)



PSP at New Student Orientation

The school year at ACS (International) began with a record-breaking 600 registered parents for the New Student Orientation morning on Wednesday, 3 January. Rows of additional seating lined the Chapel Foyer as sets of parent-children groups assembled into the Chapel.

Head Girl and Boy of the 19th Prefectorial Board, Ashley Gozali and David Kim, opened our presentations with a warm welcome and introduction of this year's proud Prefect Exco. Mr Gavin Kinch, Principal of ACS (International), invited Rev Jeremy Ong, Pastor-in-charge of Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC), to bless our morning in unified prayer.

Mr Kinch then described the school ethos through the profound IGNITE values. The Parent School Partners (PSP) and Parents Prayer Group (PPG) also shared on the foundation of their groups and the importance of parent involvement in the school. Ms Kerry Lakhani and Mr Alvin Ho drew interest for CCA categories and registration process for the upcoming CCA Fair. Mr Chia Choong Kiat, Director of Administration, covered key technical notes for the iSAMS and SchoolsBuddy applications. The presentations concluded with a cheerful salutation by Ashley and David as groups shifted to their next objectives at the canteen and the Student Centre for their uniforms, books and refreshments.

The morning was packed with enlightening and practical information to arm the new parents and students with readiness for the school year. The buying bustle at Bibi and Baba's for uniforms and Pacific Book Centre for books kept the queues well-engaged. Meanwhile, the PSP, Parents Prayer Group and HVMC booths in the Student Centre assisted parents with inquiries as well as tips on CCAs, school supplies and first-week expectations. The crowds then trickled out to prepare for the anticipated student-only orientation the next day.

The PSP graciously thanks the school for the platform to share with new parents during the Orientation. We're looking forward to strengthening bonds, happy & healthy dialogue and new parent friendships to come.

*Erica Shen
PSP Co-Chair*



PSP Post Presentation



PSP Booth

PPG NEWS

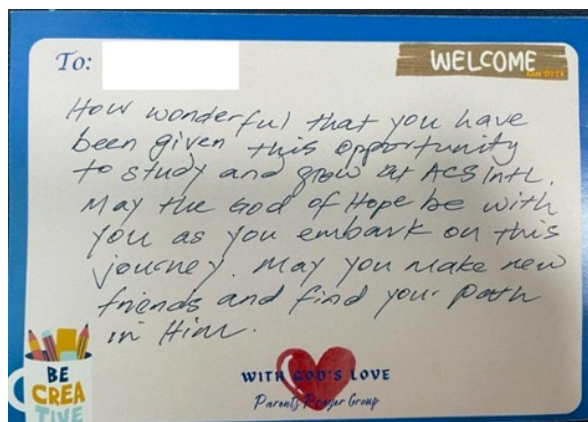
Welcome Blessing Notes from the Parents Prayer Group

During the December holiday, 10 members from the Parents Prayer Group (PPG) and Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC) prepared welcome letters and blessing notes for all international students of the school. The volunteer parents and staff organised two morning sessions to handwrite over 120 personalized cards which included uplifting greetings, heartfelt prayers and wishes for a successful year to come. Christina Kokadir, parent lead for PPG and PSP member, wished that the meaningful handwritten blessings “would speak to and touch the students’ hearts.” Both PPG and HVMC hopes the annual project allows new students to feel embraced to “journey together as one family.” Much gratitude is extended for believing in and empowering our children.

Erica Shen, PSP Co-Chair



Welcome Blessing Note



Welcome Blessing Note

First Parents Prayer Meeting of 2024

What better way to start a school year than to join like-minded parents at the first meeting of the ACS (International) Parents Prayer Group (PPG) on 11 January 2024.

What struck me deeply at this meeting was the sense of unity and purpose among the parents. The PPG comprises parents, Christian Ministry Staff from the school, and Women’s & Prayer’s Ministry and members from Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC). For the next hour at John Wesley Hall, we sang songs of worship, and then listened to an inspiring teaching from Rev Jeremy Ong, Pastor-in-charge of HVMC.

Rev Ong Jeremy posed the question: “What will ACS (International) be known for?” There are many answers, but surely, the hope is that the school is one that makes a difference to the lives of its students and community. Rev Ong reminded all present us to be faithful in praying authentic and bold prayers to God. Even if our prayers seem imperfect, but they will delight God if they are honest and vulnerable to Him. He urged us to continue to place our trust in God, who will take all of our prayers, collect all of our seeds, and in His perfect time, answer our prayers! Many parents of Year 1 students joined us for the first time at this meeting. A participant shared that she felt very welcomed and it was a precious opportunity to be able to pray together with other parents. We also had the joy of being welcomed by none other than the school Principal, Mr Gavin Kinch, at the opening of the meeting. We are grateful for the support from the school for the PPG!

If you sense God's prompting to become a part of this Christ-centred community, please join us for the upcoming Combined ACS Prayer meeting at 8am on 16 Feb 2024 in ACS (International).

Joy Sim, PPG



FIRST PRAYER MEET
11 JAN 2024

First Parents Prayer Meeting

Calculators for IGCSE & IB Students

(Year 2, Year 3, Pre-IB, FIB & Year 5 students)

Please take note of the following sales.

Sale at School Campus:

Tuesday, 27 February 2024

Time: 11 am to 12.45 pm

Venue: Canteen Area (Opposite to the school bookshop)

TI's Graphing Calculator (GC)

Special Price during Sales at our School campus.
Model No. TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS) – \$187.00
(inclusive of 9% GST)

Payment Mode during the Direct Sale Booth

During the TI's GC Direct Sale, students can reimburse the vendor via cash or cheque for \$187.00. For cash payment please bring the exact amount in paper notes (coins will not be accepted).

For any cheque settlement, please make payable to "Learning Interactive Pte Ltd". Behind the cheque, please write the student's name, class & contact number for our reference. The cheque should be dated 27-Feb-24 or earlier. Postdated cheques are not accepted.

TI's GC Price (at Bras Basah Complex)

Learning InterActive Pte Ltd
Block 231 Bain Street, #04-39 Bras Basah Complex, Singapore 180231. Tel: 63334838

Students who have missed the "Direct Sale" should either purchase from the school pacific bookstore or go to Bras Bash Complex indicated above with student's ID card & the vendor will offer them the applicable student price at the time of purchase. Special price is applicable only during Direct Sales at our school.

The GC package comes with the TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS) calculator, charging cable and the TI-Nspire CX student software license code for installing the software in your computer. Students should keep this license code safely for future use. All students who purchased a TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS) model graphing calculator earlier need not buy again. Those who do not have a working graphing calculator are strongly recommended to purchase it during this sale. Year 1 and 1Bridging students do not need a graphical calculator and they should not buy it.

Approved Calculator Models

We will be using the models indicated below to teach students in the maths classroom. We therefore strongly recommend students to purchase the correct calculator model.

Year level	Approved calculator model for use in maths classroom and examinations	Type of calculator
Year 1 and 1 Bridging Maths	CASIO FX-991CW	Scientific calculator
Year 2 and Pre-IGCSE Maths	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)	Graphic Display calculator
Year 3 International Maths	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)*	Graphic Display calculator
Year 3 Additional Maths	CASIO FX-991CW OR CASIO FX-991ES plus 2nd edition#	Scientific calculator
Year 4 International Maths	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)*	Graphic Display calculator
Year 4 Additional Maths	CASIO FX-991ES plus 2nd edition#	Scientific calculator
Pre-IB & FIB Maths	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)	Graphic Display calculator
Year 5 Mathematics: Analysis & approaches HL	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)	Graphic Display calculator
Year 5 Mathematics: Analysis & approaches SL	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)	Graphic Display calculator
Year 5 Mathematics: Applications & interpretation SL	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)	Graphic Display calculator
Year 6 Mathematics: Analysis & approaches HL	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)*	Graphic Display calculator
Year 6 Mathematics: Analysis & approaches SL	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)*	Graphic Display calculator
Year 6 Mathematics: Applications & interpretation SL	TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS)*	Graphic Display calculator

* only for students who have not purchased the graphing calculator before.

only for students who have not purchased the scientific calculator before.

GC TI-Nspire CX II (non-CAS) should be purchased at the direct sale booth at school available only on 27-Feb-24 which is cheaper compared to the regular price of the calculator.

Scientific calculator CASIO FX-991CW is available in the school pacific bookstore and can be purchased directly from the bookshop.

If you need any further clarification, please check with your mathematics teacher before purchasing your calculator.



GDC Booth Sales



TI-Nspire CXII

Graphing Calculator
by
Texas Instruments

- Feb 27, 2024 (Tue) / 11:00 am to 12:45 pm
- Booth Venue: Canteen Area (opp to bookshop)
- \$187/- per set inclusive of 9% GST. Price **only valid at above booth sales.**
- Payment **by cash in exact money notes** (coins will not be accepted).
- If PayNow, student need to make sure their own handphone's eligibility prior to come to the sales booth. PayNow needs to be done by student's own phone while present at our booth counter.
- **Important** to keep your "Record of Purchase" card upon purchased of GDC for warranty purpose.



GDC under Warranty



TI-Nspire CXII

Graphing Calculator
by
Texas Instruments

- For warranty support service, the **original "Record of Purchase"** card is required.
- Replacement of faulty calculator is **only with valid "Record of Purchase"** card within the warranty period.
- Make an **appointment either by phone or email to Learning Interactive Pte Ltd prior to bringing over your faulty GDC** together with the original "Record of Purchase" card.
- This warranty is void if the product has been damaged by accident, unreasonable use, neglect, or other causes not arising from defects in material or workmanship.



Taking care of your GDC



TI-Nspire CXII

Graphing Calculator
by
Texas Instruments

- Use **only** the provided TI-Cables for charging your calculator through a computer/laptop. **Avoid** directly using external portable charger / mobile adaptor.
- Let your GDC gets a full charged about 2 to 3 hours before first use. (Do not charge for more than 6 hours.)
- When your GDC is not being used regularly, suggest to **charge once per month** to ensure its optimum performance.
- Avoid heat & humidity, keep GDC & battery in a cool and dry place.



Friendly Reminder



TI-Nspire CXII

Graphing Calculator
by
Texas Instruments

- Read the **Quick Start Reference leaflet** before the first use of graphing calculator.
- Ensure a full charge of your GDC before going for test / examination.
- Immediately after test/examination, make sure your calculator exit **"Press to Test"** mode.
- Always keep your **student software license code.**

Term 4 Birthday Celebration with Boarders at Oldham Hall

(1 November 2023)

Celebrating birthdays at Oldham Hall has always been a delightful experience. Surrounded by the captivating Pandan cakes and the aroma of pizzas, fellow boarders gathered to celebrate with gusto. It was a fantastic opportunity to socialise and make new friends from various countries and grade levels. The camaraderie and laughter shared during this celebration created lasting memories, fostering a sense of community that made Oldham Hall feel like a home away from home.

Nathan Alexandro Tjhe (4 SVM)



UPCOMING EVENTS

January	Event
30	PSP Coffee Morning
31	IB Information Evening for Year 5 Parents
	Parent Tutor Evening
February	Event
2	Year 4 Geography Coursework Data Collection Trip
5	Ski Trip Parent Information Session
7	Lunar New Year celebration and Inter-House Competition
8 – 13	School closed for Lunar New Year
14 – 16	Student Council Friendship Week
16	ACS Combined Prayer Meeting
22	Sports Day
26	Year 4 IGCSE Mandarin Speaking Test
26 – 27	AEP (Years 4, 5 and 6)
29	CEMC Maths Competition

Charity Sale

We're having a textbook sale for just \$5 per copy!

All proceeds will be donated to Habitat for Humanity Singapore.

To place your order, visit our website and fill out the google form and you will receive a confirmation email soon.

To place your order, visit our website and fill out the google form. You will receive a confirmation email.

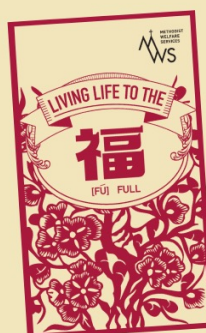
You can also look out for us at the foyer during:

- PSP Coffee Morning 30 January
- Parent Tutor Evening 31 January

Support a good cause and get your textbooks soon! Thank you in advance.

Methodist Welfare Services (MWS) Hong Bao Donation Drive 2024

ACS (International) partners with MWS for multiple service opportunities throughout the school year. We will also support their annual Hong Bao donation drive over Chinese New Year. Students will have an opportunity to support the work of MWS through a Hong Bao donation when they return from the Chinese New Year holiday on 14 – 16 February during Tutor Time. If you wish to give as well, please access the QR code below.



Donate via MWS Hong Bao Donation Drive 2024



You may also scan the QR or visit mws.sg/hongbao to make your donation online!



OPEN HOUSE

6 April 2024

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

Senior Leadership Team



Mr Gavin Kinch
Principal



Mrs Tan Siew Hoon
Vice-Principal



Mr Christopher Hayward
Vice-Principal



Dr Kristopher Achter
Vice-Principal

Information Sessions

Session 1	9am – 11am
Session 2	11am – 1pm

Oldham Chapel, ACS (International)

*61 Jalan Hitam Manis,
Singapore 278475*

Visitors only need to attend one session

*For more information,
please contact
Joseph Ng or Serene Lim
at +65 6472 1477 or
admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg*

Attendance by reservations only