

## Dear Students, Parents and Friends,

#### **Student Leader Investiture**

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." – 1 Peter 4:10

This past week, our school community gathered for the annual Student Leaders' Investiture Assembly. This is an occasion that offers both a moment of reflection for the outgoing student leaders and time to celebrate with the incoming leaders.

We took time to thank the outgoing leaders, the "Thriving Twentieth", for their dedication over the past year to serving the school. They have helped shape a culture of support, responsibility, and shared purpose within our student body. While leadership can often feel like a balancing act, they carried the role with grace. Together they embraced challenges, encouraged one another, and fostered a sense of belonging among their peers. Their connection as a group was clear to all who attended the assembly, and we're grateful for the effort and time they invested in our school community throughout their leadership term.

As we turn to a new chapter, we warmly welcome the "Steadfast 21". This new group of student leaders begins their journey with a commitment to three guiding values: to lead by example, to cultivate unity, and to uplift the community. We don't expect perfection, just a willingness to try, to learn, and to lead with integrity. As staff and students, our role is to walk alongside them, offering encouragement, feedback, and care.

The words from 1 Peter 4:10 remind us that leadership is about using our strengths for the benefit of others. Each student leader brings something unique, and we trust that through small, faithful steps, they will make a positive difference in the life of the school.

To the Thriving Twentieth: Thank you for what you've given and we wish you all the very best in the lead up to your final exams.

To the Steadfast 21: We look forward to seeing your leadership journey over the next 12 months.

May this next group of student leaders be marked not by status, but by quiet strength, shared purpose, and a commitment to serve.

Gavin Kinch Principal 21<sup>st</sup> Prefectorial Board

Coffee Corner

Abstract Art for Everyone

SVM X GHK Brawl Starts Charity Event

Open House 2025

Prayer Walk & Religious Emphasis Week

Year 5 IBDP Students Learning Journey

**Higher Education News** 

Upcoming Events



# Congratulations to the following students on their appointment as School Prefects

# ACS (International) 21st Prefectorial Board

## Prefect EXCO

Head Boy	Tomomasa Masuda	5-GHK
Head Girl	Nishya Subash Prabu	5-LSG
Board Secretary/Deputy Head Student [i/c House]	Marek Hashimoto	5-TCT
Deputy Head Student [i/c Ambassadors]	Sophie Beh Jiaxuan	5-SVM
Deputy Head Student [i/c Student Affairs]	Ryoji Yamamoto	5-TCT
Deputy Head Student [i/c Student Council]	Jayden Christian Budiman	5-SVM

## Ambassadors

Rayna Intek

Hong Qiwei

Wong Zhong Wei

Park Yeji	5-OLD
Samaira Oberoi	5-GHK
Chiam Ning Hui Kaitlyn	5-SVM
Jeongbeom Son	5-GHK
Lee Hyeonjoon	5-LSG
Amanda Lim Huimin	5-THO
Kensei Tsukamoto	5-THO
Uno Katayama	5-SVM
Aoi Hasegawa	5-CKS
Kazuki Tsukamoto	5-THO
Lau Sin Kiu Sheryl	5-TCT
Rin Miyasaka	5-GHK
Student Council	
Student Council Nicole Ng Si Yu	5-CKS
	5-CKS 5-SVM
Nicole Ng Si Yu	
Nicole Ng Si Yu Nathan Alexandro Tjhe	5-SVM
Nicole Ng Si Yu Nathan Alexandro Tjhe Loh Weng Eu Shunem	5-SVM 5-GHK
Nicole Ng Si Yu Nathan Alexandro Tjhe Loh Weng Eu Shunem Tan Shi Ning Meredith	5-SVM 5-GHK 5-GHK
Nicole Ng Si Yu Nathan Alexandro Tjhe Loh Weng Eu Shunem Tan Shi Ning Meredith Teo Ziping Pamelyn	5-SVM 5-GHK 5-GHK 5-GHK
Nicole Ng Si Yu Nathan Alexandro Tjhe Loh Weng Eu Shunem Tan Shi Ning Meredith Teo Ziping Pamelyn Afia Gupta	5-SVM 5-GHK 5-GHK 5-GHK 5-TCT

Maria Jose Artavia Garcia 5-THO

5-TCT

5-TCT

5-CKS

## **Student Affairs**

Rian Umeno	5-TKK
Riari officito	3 166
Cheng Tin Wing	5-TKK
Kao Zhi Rong Kenneth	5-SVM
Vera Neo	5-CKS
Seong Yumin	5-LSG
Jennifer May Utama	5-SVM
Devang Ranjith Menon	5-OLD
Phyo Min Khant	5-SVM
Chan Yan Sek	5-THO
Rishaan Kishore Buxani	5-GHK
Cheang Liam	5-OLD
Wong Wei Zhe	5-OLD

## **Student Head of House**

Kyra Terese Lim	5-CKS
Jadon Remiel Jonathan	5-GHK
Lee Yulwon	5-LSG
Maria Mae Leong Perlusz	5-OLD
Rory Noelle Petrus	5-SVM
Lim Kay An	5-TCT
Ma Tang Hieu Duong	5-THO
Coleen Yow Ka Kay	5-TKK

# **Coffee Corner**

The second Casual Coffee Meet of the year brought Year 2 and 3 parents and guardians together or a morning of connection and conversation. Held on 22 March, about 30 attendees gathered at Baker & Cook in Chip Bee Garden to catch up, exchange updates, and strengthen our school community. As always, the discussions were lively, and IGCSE subject selection, parenting experiences, and volunteering opportunities took center stage. The café buzzed with animated conversations, laughter, and shared wisdom, with no lull in energy until we paused for a quick group photo. We were especially grateful for surprise visits from ACS (International) Principal Mr Gavin Kinch, Vice Principal (Middle Division) Mr Christopher Hayward, and Vice Principal (Junior Division) Mr Kristopher Joseph Achter, who took time between meetings and classes to engage in meaningful face-to-face conversations with parents. These moments, though brief, reaffirm the strong partnership between our school and families.

A huge thank you to everyone who made time to attend, even amid busy schedules. Some parents juggled work e-mails and calls, and one was even en route to the airport for a business trip. Your commitment speaks volumes about the value we all place on this community.

Stay tuned for our upcoming articles on the Casual Coffee Meets for Years 4 and 5 in April and Year 1 in May. Any guesses on the hottest topics from those sessions?

PSP Exco

I've always wanted to attend the coffee session to connect with other parents, learn about their journeys, and offer mutual support. Unfortunately, my schedule always got in the way. It was amazing to finally attend for the first time yesterday. The energy and friendliness from everyone was so welcoming. I really enjoyed interacting with everyone I met. The location and ambience were perfect. I'll definitely try to join again if my schedule allows. Thank you for organizing it!

Ping Ping, Parent of Year 5 and Year 2 students, Asher and Aiden









Attending the Casual Coffee Meet was a wonderful experience! The event provided a great opportunity to connect with other parents and Parent School Partners (PSP) members and the principal in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Over coffee and snacks, I enjoyed meaningful conversations and got to know others better. The informal setting made it easy to share ideas and build new friendships. Thank you to everyone who made it possible. Looking forward to the next one!

Lily Xu, Parent of Year 3 student Ziming

Had a lot of fun meeting fellow parents and catching up with our Principal and Vice Principals! Looking forward to more sharing sessions like this.

Celine Ooi, Parent of Year 3 student Julia

The casual coffee meet was a lovely experience! It provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with Principal Gavin, educators and fellow parents, gain insights into our children's learning environment and foster a sense of community. I would love to be part of more events like this in the future. Huge thanks to PSP Exco for putting it all together.

Karen M Ng, Parent of Year 2 student Miranda

I got an opportunity to interact with Year 3 and Year 5 mums and learn about the IB programme. Discussing upcoming events with PSP members was an enriching experience as it helped me to learn about what is being planned ahead in the school year. And the coffee was great too!

Miti Garg, Parent of Year 3 student Vir

I had a great time at today's coffee meetup! The location was convenient, the coffee was great, and I enjoyed connecting with 5-6 parents. I'm looking forward to attending more casual gatherings like this!

Gracia Stephanie, Guardian of Year 2 student





# Abstract Art for Everyone

# Parent Bonding Workshop

On the morning of 28 March 2025, more than 20 of us came together for a workshop on Abstract Art at the John Wesley Hall at ACS (International). Aptly entitled Abstract Art for Everyone, we wanted it to be an art workshop that anyone could attend, especially those among us who may have once dreamt of dabbling in art but were derailed due to other demands in life, or for those others who felt that they are not the artistic sort but were curious to try it out.

Sharing with us from her treasure trove of artistic knowledge that morning was our own ACS (International) Parent-Artist Lisa Larson Lee. Lisa delved into the history and background of the abstract art movement, and then led us on a journey of looking beyond simply putting marks and prints on our art paper. She inspired us to be more in tune with our thoughts and emotions, likes and dislikes, while learning to let go of our own expectations of what we were trying to create. The next two hours saw many of us putting into practice what we had heard and learnt from Lisa. We experimented and explored with shapes and colours, painted with brushes of all sizes, and even tools of all sorts that we brought from home. One parent came prepared with a long waterbottle brush which she employed to the fullest in creating a bold and vibrant piece of artwork that we all marvelled at! The workshop ended with all of us holding up our masterpieces in our hands for a beautiful group photo. It was an adventure for us who turned up to 'play' that day!

Joy Sim, PSP Exco

#### A word from our Parent-Artist instructor Lisa

You are all great students—you were open, and willing to learn and to try new things. You put your trust in me, and allowed yourselves time to just be in the moment to explore and play. And you created such fabulous, colourful, meaningful work! I couldn't have asked for a better group of students. And I loved the way you approached your squares in your own unique way, found your own rhythm, explored things you liked—and wiped away things you didn't. 'No judgment; just noticing'.

I hope you'll be extra inspired now to pick up a brush, or pencil, or water paints, or even crayons, and to continue playing, noticing, and enjoying being in the moment with your artistic creations. Even if 10 mins is all you have, it can be just enough to put you back 'in the zone' and shift your day.

Lisa Larson Lee, Parent of Year 3 student Aedyn Lee



#### **Reflections from some of our parents**

For me, the Abstract Art Workshop was a very liberating one. Being an artist myself, I strive for perfection to churn out the finest pieces for my clients. However, with abstract art, the best artwork is created when you let your creative juices flow without boundaries.

So during the session, I allowed myself to LET GO. With the brush in my hand and the colours of my choice, I just painted without thinking about the end product. When I looked at my piece 2 hours later, I realised that what I had created was a reflection of who I am. How amazing is that? I am thankful to the PSP for organising this wonderful workshop which I thoroughly enjoyed along with the other lovely parents. I hope to attend more such sessions in future!

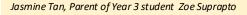
Anjali Bakshi, Parent of Year 5 and Year 1 students Yuvaan and Mia Bakshi





The Art workshop was unexpectedly relaxing, no rules of coloring within the taped lines. We were encouraged to freely explore and express, to play with colors. I have discovered the beauty of colors, with just colours alone, and it's amazing! I wanted to explore the mixing of the primary colours beyond the norm. Thinking of the basics of creation, I was exploring how mixing the basic colours would turn out, thinking of how nature itself was just amazing and beautiful with its basics. Well, being a beginner, some didn't turn out as perfect, wiped it off, sprinkled water, and try again. Looking at the friend next to me, wow, she was creative and bold! I was still in my little, unsure, careful attempts.

We all enjoyed ourselves, and time flew by. Thanks to our Canadian Artist Lisa Larson Lee, we had fun, surprised by the creativity within, the completed pieces made us look more like "pros" than clumsy "beginners" by chance, and confident for another go. Meeting other parents, we had Korean, Japanese, Chinese and Canadian mix, and all happily agreed another Art Class would be a good get-together.



I had a wonderful time at today's workshop, and it was truly a meaningful experience. A heartfelt thank you to Lisa for her guidance and to the PSP team for organising and hosting this valuable session. I sincerely appreciate all the effort that went into making this workshop such a great experience. I would also like to thank my fellow parents for sharing this time together. It was a pleasure to learn and create alongside you all.

Mika Yoshinari, Parent of Year 1 student Shusei Yoshinari



Thank you for a wonderful art workshop. I have benefited from Lisa's sharing of her journey, philosophy, and the abstract art landscape today.

The hands-on experience is therapeutic and healing! Lisa is simply wonderful and so encouraging! Special thanks to the organizing committee who made everything perfect with their amazing prep work and logistic skills which made the right things seem to appear from thin air at the right time!

Adeline Lee, Parent of Year 5 student Isabelle Yuen

Sometimes you do something that makes you really uncomfortable. That was me today.

There I was today, going hands-on, mixing up paint to make colours, dabbling paint on and using varied tools to drag and shape the paint on our paper. Unlike most of the others, I was not confident. I did not launch into speckles, base layers, mixes and hues. Yet paint eventually hit the paper, shapes began to manifest themselves and learning of a few techniques was attempted. After all, people learn by doing – so I got doing. After time passed, something came together. It wasn't what I envisioned, it wasn't particularly planned but it was rather fun. The elements connected into something a little wild.

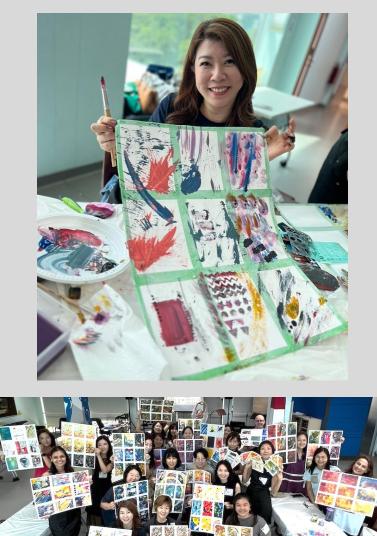
I'm glad to have broken through an uncomfortable thing. I'm happy to have learned something new, and be an engaged parent at the same time.

Duane Pierce, Parent of Year 1 student Kei Pierce



The abstract art workshop was a wonderful escape! As a mum, I'm constantly focused on structured activities and schedules. This workshop allowed me to let go, embrace the chaos of color, and rediscover my creative side without any 'right' or 'wrong' answers. It was incredibly freeing. It was also a beautiful reminder that creativity is essential for my own well-being, which in turn benefits my children.

Fiona Ngadimo, Parent of Year 1 student Sophia Elisha Ngadimo



# SVM X GHK Brawl Starts Charity Event

The SVM x GHK Brawl Stars Charity event took place on 26 March, marking the first e-gaming tournament in ACS (International) history. Brawl Stars enthusiasts from all year groups gathered at Oldham Chapel to showcase their skills. All proceeds from this charity event were donated to our beneficiary, The Singapore Association for the Deaf.

This charity event not only brought smiles to students but also raised awareness about the importance of helping those in need. Congratulations to Ng Tze Yo (5 SVM) for becoming the very first champion of the tournament!

Rin Miyasaka (5 GHK)

















# Open House 2025

On 5 April, ACS (International) opened its doors to about 800 guests for its Open House. Parents enjoyed presentations by our students and teachers through various subject displays in the Sports Hall, project exhibitions in the Science Laboratories and most importantly, our School Tours.

This year, as Head Boy and Head Girl, we structured the Open House planning process as the final Probation activity for our Prefect Nominees, giving them the opportunity to fully understand the behind-the-scenes work involved in organising such an event. From designing to leading the School Tours, the Prefect Nominees were encouraged to take initiative when speaking to families and experience leadership first-hand. As the School Tours were being planned, 10 Prefect Nominees were selected to be in charge of creating the routes, allocating jobs to the other nominees as per their preferred spoken language, while also giving parents a tour themselves. There were many situations during Open House where crowd control was a challenge, but the selected Nominees stayed calm and assessed the situation wisely, and the crowd problem was mitigated easily. As the Head Boy and Head Girl overseeing the student body, we were proud to hear that the parents were impressed with the confidence and poise shown by our student representatives during their conversations, and how they would like their children to grow into the leaders our student body is today. We witnessed significant growth in the Prefect Nominees, particularly in their problemsolving skills and creativity. The Nominees and other student representatives were also encouraged to speak to parents around the school and share authentic student experiences. As a school with an aim to develop future leaders with an international vision, moral character and intellectual ability, it was a proud moment to see our students embody these values and share them with the public.

As we end our terms as Head Boy and Head Girl of the 20th Prefectorial Board, Open House 2025 was our last event. Seeing the growth of our Prefect Nominees, as well as the confidence of our student body, it is clear to us that our Prefect Board has successfully emboldened ambition and changed the tide's direction. To the Thriving Twentieth, the rest of our student body, as well as the teaching and non-teaching faculty staff, thank you for your hard work and dedication with Open House 2025, and let's now focus on making Open House 2026 even better!

Eldon Joel Kwan (6 TKK) Yutika Dhar (6 GHK)





















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# Prayer Walk & Religious Emphasis Week

Sunny and bright were the weather and hearts of praying parents as we arrived at the school for a prayer walk on 3 April. The session commenced with worship and a sermon on The Parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15 by Pastor Joseph Vasanth. God's love reaches us even before we turn to him. His love restores us. It then inspires us to love. It was in the spirit of love that we embarked on the prayer walk. All places were prayed over by two teams of parents. We asked God to guide the school leadership to be bold and courageous to align with God's plans, for safety on campus, students forging godly friendships. We also prayed for unity in diversity, loving and empowering one another, each experiencing God in a personal way. We thank God for all the staff in the school. Lifting up the upcoming Religious Emphasis Week (REW) from 15 to 17 April to God, we prayed that students would discover their identity in Christ. We closed with a prayer for ACS (International) to reach out to the community, and be thoughtful of how their actions might impact residents living around the school for what counts is faith expressing itself in love.

On 15 April, we began REW with a joyful palm-waving welcome. Thank you to all parents, students, and SLT members who made the morning so special. The Student Centre featured a beautiful walkthrough of the Easter story, from The Triumphal Entry to The Resurrection, inviting students to reflect on each significant moment.

Ps Amos Tan of Alpha Singapore shared a powerful message titled "Who am I?" He reminded us that each of us is a child of God — deeply loved, protected, and valued. Made in His image, we carry His authority and are invited to experience His love personally. As Ps Amos shared, just like tasting a Krispy Kreme doughnut is different from just hearing about it, God's love is meant to be experienced first-hand. Students also enjoyed 2 days of live photo stations during recess, capturing fun moments with friends and bringing home meaningful keepsakes — a reminder that they are God's masterpieces (Ephesians 2:10, NLT)

Belinda Phua & Christina Kokadir, PPG





















You are God's masterpiece

# Year 5 IBDP Students Learning Journey

IB Science Collaborative Science Project & Theory of Knowledge Collaboration 2025

The 2025 Science Project (CSP) and Theory of Knowledge collaboration offered students a unique hands-on learning experience, taking them beyond the classroom to explore the diverse ecosystems of Pasir Ris Park. This interdisciplinary initiative encouraged scientific inquiry while addressing real-world environmental challenges. Pasir Ris Park, home to a six-hectare mangrove forest, a kitchen garden, and a butterfly garden, provided an ideal setting for students to conduct research, analyse environmental impacts, and propose sustainable solutions. The project emphasised the delicate balance between urban development and conservation, prompting students to investigate local environmental issues with global significance. Through collaborative research, they refined their inquiries, assessed human impact on ecosystems, and framed their findings within the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Preparation for the project began with a pre-trip briefing on 25 February at the Student Centre, where students formed interdisciplinary teams and outlined their research objectives. They conducted background research, brainstormed project ideas, and planned their field investigations, selecting formats such as scientific posters, podcasts, and video documentaries for their final presentations.

On 11 March 2025, 197 students, divided into 39 teams, explored 10 designated study sites within the park, each focusing on themes such as human-wildlife interactions, marine pollution, sustainable infrastructure, and biodiversity conservation. Data collection involved surveys, simulations, and experiments, adhering to ethical research practices. After a lunch break, the teams finalised their presentations, which were evaluated by facilitators, with top-performing groups receiving awards. Beyond scientific exploration, CSP fostered critical thinking, teamwork, and leadership skills, reinforcing the role of science in building sustainable urban spaces. The initiative underscored the value of experiential learning, proving that environmental science is best understood through direct engagement with the world around us.





#### Winners of the CSP Presentations

Among the various teams, the following groups emerged as the winners in their respective sites, showcasing outstanding research, analytical thinking, and creative presentations.

#### Site A – Understanding the Impact of Anthropogenic Noise on Birds

At Site A, the winning team, comprising Subash Prabu, Nishya Asthana, Jai Wu, Youchen Lee, Heon-Jay (Jay) and Jin Zixuan, conducted a preliminary investigation into the relationship between anthropogenic noise and avian presence in the park. Their study explored how human-generated sounds influence bird populations, providing critical insights into urban conservation efforts.

#### Site B – Evaluating Park Guidelines for Habitat Protection

At Site B, Chung Dayon (Diane), Lim Kay An, Lee Yulwon (Daniel), Tan Jonathan James Hon Li (Jonathan), and Lim Kyra Terese (Kyra) examined the effectiveness of park regulations in preventing habitat destruction. Their research highlighted key weaknesses in the enforcement of rules related to littering and other harmful activities, offering recommendations for improvement.

#### <u>Site C – Leveraging Technology for Wildlife Education</u>

The winning team at Site C, consisting of Tan Caitlin Ri Ning (Caitlin), Gao Rui (Harry), Ho Wai Yan (Bergen), Tsukamoto Kensei, and Lim Lucas Jia Rong (Lucas), explored how technology can be used to educate the public about the park's wildlife. Their study proposed innovative digital tools and outreach strategies to enhance conservation awareness.

#### <u>Site D – Infrastructure for Inclusivity and Well-being</u>

At Site D, Loh Weng Eu Shunem (Shunem), Tjhe Nathan Alexandro (Nathan), Yamamoto Ryoji, Tan Jia Xuan Kylda (Kylda), and Siow Shu En Emma (Emma) investigated how Pasir Ris Park's infrastructure promotes inclusivity and overall well-being. Their findings highlighted the importance of accessible public spaces in fostering a welcoming environment for all visitors.

#### Site E - The Effects of Plastic Waste on Wildlife

In Site E, the winning group—Aoi Hasegawa, Kim Yeeun, Lim Huimin Amanda, Liu Weizheng (David), and Oberoi Samaira—focused on the effects of plastic waste on local marine and terrestrial wildlife, as well as the degradation rates of various plastics. Their research provided essential data for improving waste management and pollution control efforts.

#### Site F – Urban Developments and Their Environmental Impact

The winners of Site F, who investigated urban developments in Pasir Ris Park, focused their research on The Impact of Human Activities on Wildlife in Pasir Ris Park. The award-winning team comprised Tian Ruomeng, Neo Vera, Cheng Tin Wing (Karik), Ng Jeremiah, and Lee Donghun.

#### <u>Site G – How Flowers Attract Butterflies</u>

At Site G, Ee Chloe Min (Chloe), Chernova Arina, Huang Yong Shin (Crystal), Santosa Caitlyn Jeavin (Caitlyn), and Ranjith Menon Devang conducted a study on how the colour and scent intensity of flowers influence butterfly attraction. Their work contributed to a better understanding of pollinator behaviour and plant biodiversity.

#### Site H – The Effects of Human Activities on Wildlife

The Site H winners, Sung Geonwoo, Pereira Sophia Anne (Sophia), Jacob Joann Maria (Joann), Qin XuanLin, and Zheng Xin Jayden (Jayden), explored how human activities affect wildlife in the park. Their observations provided valuable insights into behavioural changes and habitat disturbances caused by human presence.

#### Site I – Evaluating Wildlife Deterrents

At Site I, Park Ian, Chan Renee, Yew Jia Le Laura (Laura), Ma Tang Hieu Duong, and Tay Alexander James (Alexander) examined how chemical and physical deterrents can safely keep wildlife away from public areas. Their research assessed the effectiveness and sustainability of these deterrents based on animal behavioural patterns.

#### <u>Site J – The Impact of Soil on Seawater Acidity</u>

Finally, at Site J, Tan Janelle Rei Tyng (Janelle), Zhong Jun Kwok (Jacob), Cheang Liam, Yuvaan Bakshi, and Ho Keith Tze Hou (Keith) investigated the pH and concentration of seawater to understand how soil affects acidity and water conditions. Their findings offered valuable insights into environmental chemistry and its implications for marine life.







Throughout my involvement in the collaborative sciences project, I was able to develop my experimental skills through the experiment which our group has conducted. This experience has provided me with hands-on learning experience by working with nature and the environment. It has also given me insight into the ability to adapt due to our initial methodology failing and us switching to a different method to carry out the experiment successfully.

This experience has honed my experimental skills which I could apply to future experiments, especially concerning natural phenomena.

Participating in the CSP was a refreshing experience that allowed me to apply scientific theory to real-world environmental issues. Our group's focus on sustainable tourism infrastructure at Pasir Ris Park led us to explore how eco-friendly measures impact both visitors and the natural environment. We collected water and soil samples, measuring pH levels to assess its safety, and used a decibel meter app to analyse sound pollution near tourist areas.

Beyond data collection, I had the opportunity to engage with a diverse range of people, including a Boston University student, a local Woodball enthusiast couple who kindly taught me the game, and an expert guide from Orca Nation, who provided insightful perspectives on conservation efforts. These interviews expanded my understanding of the different ways people view and connect with the park.

Winning Best Speaker and Best Group was rewarding as it recognised our team's hard work and collaboration. This project has strengthened my research skills and highlighted the importance of working together in addressing sustainability issues.

Nathan Alexandro Tjhe (5 SVM)

RQ: "How do turbidity levels in saltwater at Pasir Ris Park impact the local marine ecosystem, and what role do human activities (e.g. ship movement, waste pollution) play in these turbidity levels?"

This experience was both challenging and rewarding, difficult in the way that we all had separate areas of knowledge when it comes to saltwater but rewarding when we all came together and learnt about environmental factors that affect water quality and its impact on marine animals (RQ above). Working with my peers allowed me to appreciate diverse approaches of problem-solving, effective communication for analysing and interpreting results. It also helped me understand that it is crucial for unique individual strengths to collaborate and work towards a shared, common goal to achieve holistic and eye-opening experiences.

Artavia Garcia Maia Jose (5 THO)

RQ: "How can we design educational and conservation-focused signage that enhances visitor learning, and promotes awareness of local ecosystems and their protection?"

Being part of this collaborative sciences project was a valuable experience that enhanced my problem-solving and teamwork skills (RQ above). I contributed by creating presentation slides and planning how AI, specifically VR and AR, could improve educational signage in Pasir Ris Park. Additionally, I documented the current signage through photos and encouraged people to participate in our survey, though some declined. This challenged me to find better ways to engage the public.

Overall, the project deepened my understanding of technology's role in conservation and reinforced the importance of persistence and adaptability in research and collaboration.

Yang Bingyi (5 SVM)

RQ: Survey the types of rubbish found along the shores and investigate the effects of waste, particularly plastic, on local marine and terrestrial wildlife.

I think one of the difficulties that we face was collecting the decent amount of plastic waste at Pasir Ris Park (RQ above). We needed teamwork and attention to detail when sorting and categorizing different types of plastics. Also, another difficulty was researching and fully understanding the long-term environmental impacts of plastic degradation. However, from going to see the real world data, I deeply understood how plastic pollution affects marine and terrestrial ecosystems in Singapore. Through this project, I developed a stronger commitment to conservation to the environment. This also deepened my appreciation for research and data collection in real-world issues.

### **HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS**

#### Year 4 Students' Sharing and Reflection on their University Visits

Although this event happened in March as part of the Academic Enrichment Programme (AEP) for our Year 4 cohort, we could not let the moment pass without sharing. After the university campus visits on 11 March, students reflected on their experiences and shared photos and insights with their peers back at school. These peer-to-peer exchanges allowed everyone to learn about a variety of universities—even those they didn't get to visit themselves. The afternoon was filled with meaningful conversations that helped deepen students' understanding of their options and inspired fresh curiosity about the paths ahead.



Aubrey Rose Mc Clung Jianzi Meishi (4 TKK) quizzing the Year 4s



Rianne Ng (4 THO) and Ashley Rao (4 THO) sharing their experience from the SMU visit



Lee Xin Quan Timothy (4 LSG) and Aubrey Rose Mc Clung Jianzi Meishi (4 TKK) sharing their experience at EHL



Aryan Anandani (4 CKS) and Phoebe Ng En Hwee (4 CKS) sharing their experiences from SIM Global Education



Aryan Anandani (4 CKS) quizzing the Year 4s



Yun Seojeong (4 THO), Khair Siya Ketan (4 THO) and Lo Cheuk Chun (4 THO) sharing their experiences from their visit to NTU

#### **April Highlights from Higher Education & Careers**

It's been a packed and purposeful start to the new term! Here's a quick look at what we've been up to in April:

#### Y6 Parent-Teacher Meeting (1 April)

We connected with Year 6 parents to discuss application matters relating to researching entry requirements and deadlines. It was a great opportunity to align home and school support. The slides can be found <u>here</u>.

#### Y4 Parent-Teacher Meeting (2 April)

A timely check-in with families as students begin thinking about subject pathways and future interests. Slides can be found <u>here.</u>

#### Open House (5 April)

Our booth sparked many thoughtful conversations with prospective families about future readiness, university pathways, and how we support students throughout.



Higher Education & Careers Team: Ms Yap Lin Lin, Mr Nicholas Chia, Ms Junita Devi Sockalingam

#### University of Western Australia Sharing with Counsellor (7 April)

We recently met with a representative from the University of Western Australia (UWA) to gain insights into the evolving Australian higher education landscape and the growing opportunities available for our students. Students who are seriously considering Australia as a top university destination are strongly encouraged to apply early, as international places have become more limited since last year. To ensure the best strategy and timeline, students should speak with a school counsellor as early as possible.

#### Higher Education Fair (7 April)

40 local and overseas institutions joined us on campus, engaging our Y4–Y6 students and parents in conversations about global courses, admissions, and campus life. The university representatives were blown away by the deep and reflective thinking type of questions our students and parents asked.





University of Chicago



Singapore Management University and our Alumni

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

May	Event	June	Event	
1	Labour Day	30	Teacher Only Day	
2	UKMY Jr Maths Challenge and Gauss Contest	30 – 11 July	Year 4 and 6 Prelims	
5	School closed	July	Event	
7	Year 5 Trip Briefing for Parents and Students (Perth and Mongolia)	1	Teacher Only Day	
10	Oldham Fundraiser Volleyball Cup		School resumes for Years 1 – 3 and 5	
12	Vesak Day	2	Singapore Junior Chemistry Olympiad	
14	Year 5 Trip Briefing for Parents and Students (Bali and Vietnam)			
17	Prefects Camp			
20	School Production (3.30pm–5pm, 7pm–8.30pm)			
24	Junior Physics Olympiad		THE	
21	School Production (7pm–8.30pm)	AUS (International)		
22	School Production (7pm–8.30pm)		A Methodist Institution	
26	Start of school holidays			

# Brought to you by Drama CCA

**Blackbox** Theatre Library Block Floor 6 **ACS International** 



Tuesday 20 May 3.30pm and 7pm Wednesday 21 May 7pm Thursday 22 May 7pm

Thornton Wilder



"Do any human beings

ever realize life while

they live it?"

**Place your** order now!





GUEST OF HONOUR

# **PROF NG WAI HOE**

GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SINGHEALTH



15 NOV 2025 SATURDAY

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10:00AM Seated By 9:45AM

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

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RSVP by scanning the QR code or clicking on this **link** by 3rd November 2025, 12PM. For enquiry, please contact Ms Jessie Yeung: **jessie.yeung@acsinternational.edu.sg** 

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