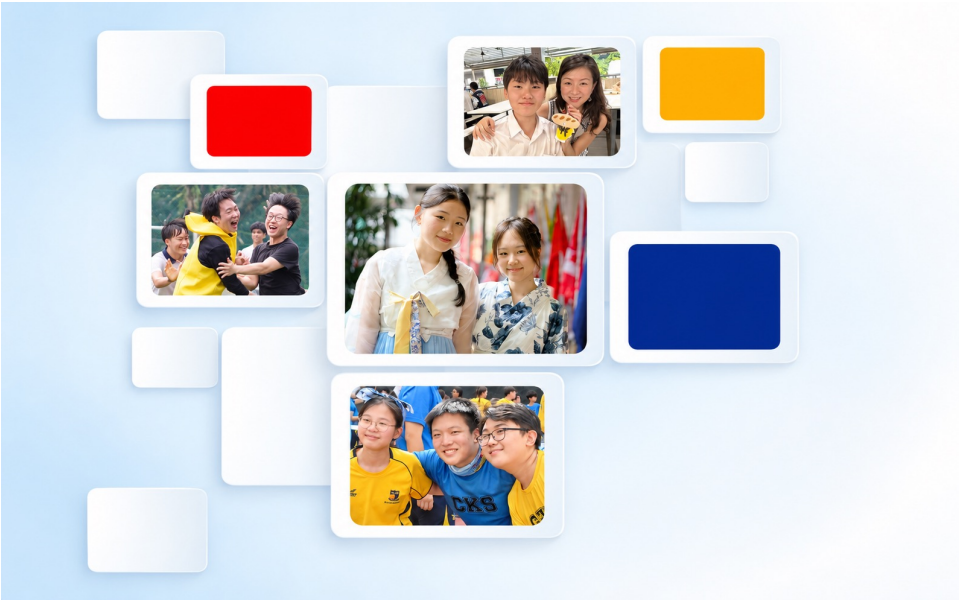

October / November 2026

ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

Dear Students, Parents and Friends,

As we come to the end of another academic year at ACS (International), it is an opportunity to reflect on all that has been accomplished, celebrate the achievements of our students, and give thanks for the many blessings we have experienced throughout 2026.

The Bible reminds us in Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." As one school year draws to a close, we recognise that each season brings opportunities for growth, learning and new beginnings. For some students, this marks the conclusion of their journey at ACS (International), while for others, it is another important step along the way.

To our graduating Year 6 students, we extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes as you prepare for university, National Service and the many opportunities that lie ahead. We hope you will always look back fondly on your time at ACS (International) and carry the ACS spirit with you wherever life takes you. To those returning in 2027, I hope the coming holidays provide an opportunity to rest, spend time with family and friends, and return refreshed for another exciting year.

The final weeks of school have once again been filled with opportunities for learning beyond the classroom. Our Year 1 students participated in day camps around Singapore, while our Year 2 and FIB/Pre-IB students enjoyed their overseas experiences in Rawa and Bintan. These activities provide wonderful opportunities to develop friendships, build resilience and experience learning in different environments. We also look forward to our Year 3 students enjoying their rescheduled Telunas camp in January.

Throughout 2026, students have also benefited from a wide range of international trips, performances, competitions and other enriching experiences. These opportunities are an important part of school life, broadening perspectives, developing independence and creating memories that will remain with students long after they leave us.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our teaching and support staff for their dedication throughout the year. Their commitment to our students, both inside and outside the classroom, contributes enormously to the life of our school. I wish them all a restful and well-deserved break.

I also extend my heartfelt thanks to our Parent School Partners (PSP), whose generosity, enthusiasm and commitment have once again made such a positive contribution to our school community. Through their support of school events, activities and initiatives, they continue to strengthen the relationships that make ACS (International) such a special community. We are deeply grateful for the time and energy they so willingly give.

Finally, we are grateful for the privilege of serving alongside Holland Village Methodist Church in our shared ministry within the school. This valued partnership continues to grow and strengthen, and we are deeply thankful for the encouragement, support and opportunities it provides as we work together to serve our school community.

As we conclude 2026, we give thanks to God for His continued guidance and blessings, and look forward with hope and anticipation to all that 2027 will bring.

To God Be The Glory!
The Best Is Yet To Be!

Gavin Kinch
Principal

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IGCSE Mathematics:
Top in the World Academic Achievements

The Mathematics Faculty is pleased to share the outstanding achievements of our students in the Cambridge IGCSE examinations held in October 2025. Demonstrating high academic standards, two of our students have secured the "Top in the World" accolades for their exceptional performance.

This recognition reflects the dedication of our students and the structured academic guidance and feedback provided by our teaching faculty.

We congratulate the following students and their teachers on these global achievements:

- **Kim Chaewon (5 CKS)**
  Top in the World for IGCSE International Mathematics
  (Subject teacher: Ms Cynthia Navamani)
- **Kim Yejin (5 SVM)**
  Top in the World for IGCSE Additional Mathematics
  (Subject teacher: Mr Samuel Lee)

These accomplishments highlight the students' comprehensive mastery of content knowledge, analytical precision and rigorous focus under timed examination conditions. This outcome across the two-year course stands as a direct testament to their dedication and passion for the subject, as well as the tireless support of their teachers.





Singapore Mathematical Olympiad 2026

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 3 June and 4 June, 77 students (Years 1 to 6) from ACS (International) took part in SMO 2026. The list of winners for ACS (International) is given below.

NAME	DIVISION	CERTIFICATE
SMO (Junior) Results		
Jiyoon Seong	Year 2	BRONZE
Suan Kim	Year 1	BRONZE
Yeji Lee	Year 2	BRONZE
Kazuma Matsumura	Year 1	HONOURABLE MENTION
Seunguk Lee	Year 1	HONOURABLE MENTION
Suah Park	Year 1	HONOURABLE MENTION
Tay Yi Fei	Year 1	HONOURABLE MENTION
Yoonhoo Jung	Year 1	HONOURABLE MENTION
SMO (Senior) Results		
Kim Eunwoo	Year 4	SILVER
Lu Qiankun	Year 4	SILVER
Daeun Jung	Year 4	BRONZE
Mahiro Yamamoto	Year 4	BRONZE
Li Yuecen	Year 4	HONOURABLE MENTION
SMO (Open) Results		
Mingeon Choi	Year 5	SILVER
Dai Haohan	Year 4	BRONZE
Lu Qiankun	Year 4	BRONZE
Mahiro Yamamoto	Year 4	BRONZE
Po-Hsueh Lu	Year 5	BRONZE
Wu Youchen	Year 6	BRONZE
Ian Park	Year 6	HONOURABLE MENTION
Lee Seo Yul	Year 6	HONOURABLE MENTION
Minseo Kim	Year 5	HONOURABLE MENTION
Rui Masumi	Year 5	HONOURABLE MENTION
Sung Geonwoo	Year 6	HONOURABLE MENTION

Results Summary 2026

	Item	Junior	Senior	Open
1	Gold	0	0	0
2	Silver	0	2	1
3	Bronze	3	2	5
4	Honourable Mention	5	1	5

Australian Mathematics Competition 2026

The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank has been held annually since 1978. One of the largest annual events on the Australian education calendar, the AMC is one of the largest of its type in the world. More than 40 countries participate each year. The competition aims to be accessible to all students from Years 1 to 6, not just the mathematically gifted. There is an emphasis on problem solving, a valuable life skill, and the questions are designed to be fun for the student. The AMC consists of three separate papers, each with 30 questions in the Junior (ACS Years 1 and 2, Australian Year 7 and 8), Intermediate (ACS Years 3 and 4, Australian Year 9 and 10) and Senior (ACS Years 5 and 6, Australian Year 11 and 12) divisions. Time allowed is 75 minutes. Awards are given based on percentile ranks, including High Distinction (top 3%), Distinction (top 25%), and Credit (top 55%), with cut-off scores varying by year due to competition difficulty. All other entrants in the competition receive a Proficiency Certificate.

On 4 August, 159 students (Years 1 to 6) from ACS (International) took part in AMC 2026. The list of Prize, High Distinction and Distinction award recipients for ACS (International) is given below.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION (AMC) 2026 Results		
ACS (INTERNATIONAL) SINGAPORE		
NAME	DIVISION	AWARD
Saemin Kim	Junior	Prize & Best in School Award Winner
Mahiro Yamamoto	Intermediate	High Distinction
Lu Qiankun	Intermediate	High Distinction
Mingeon Choi	Senior	High Distinction
Tetsushi Aoyama	Senior	High Distinction
Hyeonjoon Lee	Senior	High Distinction
Geonwoo Sung	Senior	High Distinction
Cheng-Yang Hu	Junior	Distinction
Geonhee Lim	Junior	Distinction
Hyorin Park	Junior	Distinction
Jihwan Lee	Junior	Distinction
Kaitlyn Yong	Junior	Distinction
Kazuma Matsumura	Junior	Distinction
Marcus Habarovs	Junior	Distinction
Park Juyul	Junior	Distinction
Yi Fei Tay	Junior	Distinction
Edward Koh	Intermediate	Distinction
Eunwoo Kim	Intermediate	Distinction
Inyoung Cho	Intermediate	Distinction
Kota Takikawa	Intermediate	Distinction
Taekyum Kim	Intermediate	Distinction
Xiang Li	Intermediate	Distinction
Yoo Hyun Kim	Intermediate	Distinction
Yuecen Li	Intermediate	Distinction
Yunhee Seo	Intermediate	Distinction
Donghun Lee	Senior	Distinction
Haoxuan Yu	Senior	Distinction
Junjie Fan	Senior	Distinction
Muchen Liu	Senior	Distinction
Po-Hsueh Lu	Senior	Distinction
Seungah Lee	Senior	Distinction
Xiaoyu Zhang	Senior	Distinction
Xinyue Shen	Senior	Distinction
Yejin Kim	Senior	Distinction
Youchen Wu	Senior	Distinction
Yujing Su	Senior	Distinction
Yuvaan Bakshi	Senior	Distinction
Zhang Jiahe	Senior	Distinction
Zhanyi Li	Senior	Distinction

ACS (International) AMC Results									
Category / Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Number of participants	38	107	73	91	118	107	168	204	159
Prize	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
High Distinction	1	1	1	4	2	5	4	8	6
Distinction	9	17	11	28	27	22	36	40	32

Inter-School Online Mathematics Contest

Our students participated in the Inter-school Online Mathematics Contest for international schools in Singapore, held on 5 September 2026.

Congratulations to the following students for their top performance in the contest:

- Grade 7
  - Yuito Hayama
- Grade 8
  - Shin Jiwon
  - Jia Tingyu
  - Jaden Lee Guan Yi
  - Miu Tan
  - Shusei Yoshinari
- Grade 9
  - Arjun Subash Prabu
  - Kim Yoo Hyun
  - Kim Hayul

Their success reflects the students' strong mathematical ability, commitment, and enthusiasm for problem-solving.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September	Event
29 Sept – 12 Nov	IGCSE Examinations
November	**Event**
26 Oct – 13 Nov	IB Examinations
8	Deepavali
9	Deepavali Public Holiday
11	School Assembly (no lessons, students half day)
	Inter-House Tug of War
12	Speech Day
13	Teachers' Only Day
13 Nov – 4 Jan 2027	School holidays
14	Year 6 Graduation (10am – noon)
	Prom (PM)
December	**Event**
18	IB results release
January 2027	**Event**
4 – 5 Jan 2027	Teachers Only Days and Student Orientation
5 – 8 Jan 2027	Year 4 Camp
6	Start of Term 1 2027

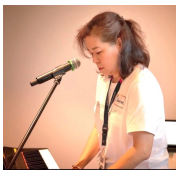
Walking Humbly Together Prayer Meeting

There was something quietly special about seeing parents from the different ACS schools gathering at ACS (International) on 2 October for the ACS Combined Schools Prayer Meeting. We came from different parts of the ACS family, with different cares, responsibilities and seasons of life. Yet for a few hours that morning, we came simply as one. We began with a welcome and a joyful time of worship. There was a palpable sense of warmth in the room—something several parents later described as being blessed by God's presence and by the simple experience of worshipping together.





Rev Jeremy Ong of Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC then brought us to the familiar words of Micah 6:8: "**to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.**" One thought from his sharing was particularly striking: sometimes a few seconds genuinely engaging someone in need can matter more than hours spent perfecting what we intend to offer God. Walking humbly with God must shape how we notice people, how we treat them, and how we respond when someone needs our time, forgiveness or attention. One parent shared afterwards that, despite an unpredictable work schedule, she had made an intentional decision to come and seek God. A friend asked: "Are you chasing God, or is God chasing you?" Her reflection captured something of the morning beautifully: as we seek God, we discover again that He has been seeking and sustaining us all along.






Mr Gavin Kinch, Principal of ACS (International), and Mrs Tan Siew Hoon, Vice Principal (Senior Division) of ACS (International) were also with us. Mr Kinch shared about the life and direction of the school. Hearing directly from the school gave helpful context for what followed: bringing its leaders, teachers, students and future before God in prayer. I had the privilege of leading the prayer for the group, as we prayed for Mr Kinch and Mrs Tan. We thanked God for those entrusted with leading and serving the school and prayed for wisdom, courage and joy in their work. We remembered especially our Year 4 and Year 6 students approaching their national examinations, asking for calm minds and resilience. We also prayed for the wider ACS community: that in busy days God would be our stillness; in difficult decisions, our wisdom; when students are anxious, their peace; and when we are weary, our strength. The Doxology followed, before we organised ourselves in smaller groups to pray. For me, this was one of the most meaningful parts of the morning when parents from different ACS schools prayed side by side — for each of the ACS schools, its teachers and students, but also for the needs beyond that school's immediate communities. Several parents subsequently spoke of this same sense of unity: of faithful parents praying alongside our schools; of our shared responsibility in shaping young lives; and of seeking life, joy and peace not only for our own children but across the wider ACS communities. While the spread of the late breakfast that followed was generous, the greater gift was what happened around it. Old friendships were rekindled; people caught up in unhurried ebbs and flows of conversations. I was blessed by the fellowship, encouraged by praying together, but also challenged by Mr Kinch's earlier presentation on raising and educating our children in AI generation. What should education look like in this new world? What wisdom and character will our children need? Amid so much capability and information, how do we nurture them to fulfil Micah's exhortation? The morning did not give us easy answers to those questions, but we know whom we can trust. The God who has seen the ACS family through generations of extraordinary changes — overseeing Bishop Oldham and thirteen students at Amoy Street, to the ACS community of today— is not surprised by the world our children are entering. And even beyond. That gives me confidence— that God remains sovereign and faithful. Perhaps that is one of the quiet gifts of gatherings in a combined prayer meeting. I was assured that while the journey of seeking to please and trust God is not finished, we can journey together.




Peter T. Ng, ACS (International)

Other parents also shared their reflections:

"I praise and thank God for His amazing Presence at the ACS Combined Prayer on 2 October, so warmly hosted by ACS (International). I was deeply blessed by Rev Jeremy Ong's sharing from Micah 6:8: "to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." I was also inspired and moved by the love and wonderful fellowship among everyone who served and attended, united in Him as we prayed for His beloved ACS family and the wider community, all for His glory."

Mrs Rebecca Vagenende, ACS (Independent)

"Spirit-filled worship & beautiful prayer time."

Mdm. Sarabjit, ACS (Barker Road)

"We enjoyed a morning of joyful worship and authentic sharing by Pastor Jeremy. The AC family is very blessed to have so many faithful parents praying alongside the schools, teachers and students."

Ms Valerie Lim, ACS (Junior)

"Gathering together was a meaningful reminder of God's faithful work in shaping young minds, and our united role in cultivating life, joy, and peace across the entire ACS family. Beyond the worship and service itself, enjoying wonderful fellowship over such a lovely brunch spread was the perfect finish to an uplifting morning!"

Ms Sharon Ngiam, ACS (International)

"I have an unpredictable work schedule and often have to split my time. But a friend had shared one line with me on Wednesday, 'Are you chasing God or is God chasing you?'. With that, I told myself that I want to be intentional about seeking God on Friday, which happened to be the Combined ACS prayer meeting. Pastor Jeremy's message about '15 secs of engaging a person in need is better than hours of music practice' really resonated with me. Even if we feel bereft, when we chase God, we realise He has never stopped chasing us.

Serene Chan, ACJC






ACS @ TriFactor Singapore!

On 13 September, three students from ACS (International), Yuvaan Bakshi (6 CKS), Kiran Murthy (6 GHK) and Keith Ho (6 CKS) participated in the Long Distance Relay event of the TriFactor Singapore Triathlon. This comprised a 2.25 km swim, 42 km bike, and 15 km run. Entering as Team Oreo, the team finished 2nd place overall in the triathlon, exhibiting their excellence as athletes and the reward of their rigorous training prior to the event.

'This was certainly a gruelling race, and racing against the best in Singapore is always a thrilling experience. As the team cyclist, I gave my all on the bike leg. As we waited eagerly for the results, overwhelming satisfaction rushed through me when our team appeared on the screen. Competing in the triathlon was an enriching experience, and I've grown to become a more knowledgeable cyclist. Kudos to the team for the spectacular performance and their cooperation, which ensured quick transitions between the triathlon legs, enabling us to secure our 2nd place finish.'

Yuvaan Bakshi (6 CKS) (Team Captain)

'This was my first ever open water swim, and it was an eye-opening experience for me. I really enjoyed this triathlon relay, and I hope to do more in the future.'

Kiran Murthy (6 GHK)



Student Honoured At Global Essay Competition

Park Jooyeon (4 CKS) did ACS (International) proud when she was recognised in the prestigious John Locke Institute 2026 Global Essay Prize. She received a Commendation in the Psychology Category, placing her entry among the top performers among more than 100,000 contestants from 183 countries. Her essay explored the compelling question of "Is mental illness over-diagnosed now, or just better recognised?" Following this international recognition, Jooyeon was invited to London, where she attended the John Locke Institute's Full Academy Programme and celebrated her achievement along with fellow scholars from around the world at the formal Awards Ceremony Gala Dinner. In addition, she also received a Gold Award from the Queens Commonwealth Essay Competition.

Jooyeon wrote: "Being shortlisted for, and receiving a Commendation prize in, the John Locke Global Essay Competition has been a genuine dream come true. I was invited to London for a few days to take part in academic programmes and networking opportunities, where I formed valuable connections with aspiring writers from all over the world and got a chance to interact meaningfully with inspiring professors from different universities.

Reflecting on this experience, I feel it has helped me become more open to other viewpoints and voices. The competition allowed me not only to express my ideas persuasively, but also to consider the range of innovative perspectives that can stem from a single question. Hearing how students and professors from different backgrounds approached the same issue encouraged me to think critically, to question my own assumptions, and to recognise that the best solutions come from weighing many perspectives rather than defending just one. It has also deepened my interest in psychology. I was passionate about the subject before, but I now have a clearer understanding of how people's backgrounds and experiences shape the way they think. This has motivated me to explore other related fields such as neuroscience, behavioural psychology and developmental psychology. Overall, it was a remarkable opportunity that broadened my understanding of global issues."

These accomplishments reflect Jooyeon's dedication to academic excellence and deep analytical thinking on a global stage. Congratulations are in order!



Coming Out Tops At Asian Championship

Brandon Frederick Shen (6 CKS) represented Heart of Basketball (HOB) at the 2026 Under Armour Asia Club Championship from 25–27 September in Shanghai. The HOB team was the ere HOB was the only Singaporean club invited to compete in the tournament, and they finished as 3rd Runner-Up.

Brandon was also awarded the Top Scorer Award after averaging 24.3 points per game throughout the tournament.

Congratulations on your achievement, Brandon.

The Best Is Yet To Be!







A Summary On the Writing Process of 4CFi-1 Book

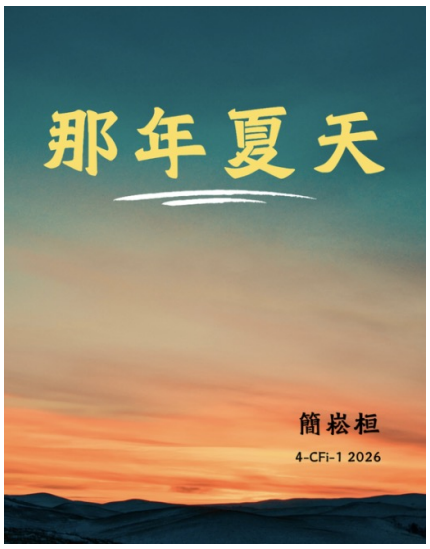
A note from the teacher:

Thank you class for imbuing the study of Chinese with new meaning. Through this book, we have summarised our learning and achievements over the past years and revisited the engaging activities during the class time. Together we transformed what might have been a "dull and tedious" language class into a lively, real-world-oriented experience, breathing new vitality into our lessons. I appreciate your enthusiasm for learning and your dedication to expanding your knowledge of the Chinese language; You have grown into thoughtful individuals who embody both refinement and substance. I wish you smooth sailing on your continued journey of learning Chinese.



Before starting this anthology, we thought that writing was mainly about completing an assignment and making sure that our ideas were clearly expressed. However, after looking through the different pieces in the collection of collaborative works, we realised that writing is a much longer process involving inspiration, observation, planning, drafting, reflection and improvement. The writers in the collection did not simply begin writing without a purpose. Many of them first found inspiration from personal experiences, books, lessons or ordinary moments in their daily lives. For example, one writer was inspired by Zhu Ziqing's 《绿》 and combined its writing techniques with a real experience of visiting Beijing in winter. Another writer was inspired by watching a sunset at the beach and used the changing scenery to reflect on time and hope. This showed us that meaningful writing can come from experiences that may initially seem ordinary.





During the process of creating and studying the articles in the collection, we became more aware of the importance of observation and language techniques. Instead of simply stating what happened, the writers used sensory descriptions, metaphors, personification, contrast and other techniques to make their writing more vivid. In *春节*, for example, the writer described the sounds, smells, colours and movement of the crowded streets to create a lively atmosphere. Similarly, *靜默的鼓* used the contrast between silence and sound to express deeper thoughts about traditional Chinese culture. Reading these examples made us realise that strong description is not simply about using difficult vocabulary. It is about choosing precise details that allow readers to see, hear, smell and feel the scene.

We also learnt that the writing process involves connecting description with personal thoughts and emotions. A piece should not only describe an object, place or event but should also communicate why that experience matters. For instance, *餘暉下的腳印* uses the disappearing footprints and sunset to represent the passing of time, while ending with a sense of hope for the future. This taught me that description can have a deeper meaning when it is connected to the writer's feelings and reflections.

Angela Chow (4 OLD), Lau Sin Ching Josie (4 TCT)



After completing the anthology, we realised that writing is also a process of learning about ourselves. Looking back at the different pieces, we can see that every writer has a unique way of observing the world. Some focus on food, some on cities, some on nature, while others explore ideas such as logic, culture and personal growth. Therefore, our collective writings in this book have taught us that there is no single way to write a good piece. What matters is finding something meaningful to say and presenting it in an effective way. From this project, we learnt that good writing begins with genuine observation and reflection. We should not only think about what we want to write, but also consider what we want our readers to feel or understand. In the future, we hope to pay greater attention to the beautiful things in our daily lives, experiment with different writing techniques and spend more time revising our work. Most importantly, we have learnt that writing is not just about producing a finished piece; it is a journey from an initial idea to a deeper understanding of an experience.



Cookery CCA Cook-Off: A Taste of Teamwork



On 23 and 24 September, the Cookery CCA organised a cook-off where students worked in groups to plan and prepare a dish within a given budget. After finalising our ingredients and dividing the tasks during the previous session, we arrived ready to put our plans into action.

I was in charge of preparing the bacon topping for our mac and cheese dish, while my groupmate prepared the tea. When we realised that we did not have any ice for the tea, we improvised by placing it in the freezer while waiting for the rest of our food to cook. The kitchen was filled with the sounds, smells and excitement of everyone preparing their dishes. Once our food was ready, each group presented its creations to Ms Cheryl Seah and Dr Kristopher Achter on Wednesday, and to Ms Seah and Ms Michelle on Thursday. We also shared the inspiration behind our meals and the process of bringing our ideas to life. While the judges deliberated, we cleaned our stations, just as we would after any regular Cookery CCA session.

Although my group did not win, I was proud of what we had created. The cook-off taught me the importance of preparation, teamwork and adaptability, especially when things did not go according to plan. Most importantly, I enjoyed experimenting with recipes and working together with my groupmates to turn our ideas into something we could share.

It was a meaningful and memorable way to end our Cookery CCA experience.

Renee Marley Petrus (3 SVM)











Blessing Our School Custodians 2026

On 25 September, the Christian Fellowship's act of blessing our school custodians—including our cleaners, security guards, canteen vendors, bookshop staff, printing staff, and maintenance team—was a wonderful and deeply meaningful experience. They keep our school clean, nourish us with food, and ensure our daily routines run smoothly. It was a fantastic opportunity to appreciate and thank them for their continuous hard work.



During the event, we prayed for the custodians and presented them with vouchers as a token of our love and gratitude. Although a few custodians, such as our printing lady, canteen vendors, and security guards, could not join us directly due to their ongoing duties around the school, we made sure their gifts were passed to them.



It was a wonderful opportunity to put faith into action and obey John 15:12 (ESV): "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

We are already looking forward to blessing them again next year!

Evelyn Ong (3 OLD)
Christian Fellowship 2026









Students Shine With Innovative Portfolio Builder

Recently, Elijah Chew (5 OLD), Ryusei Nakatsu (5 GHK) and Benjamin Koh (5 OLD) made ACS (International) with BentoTile (www.bentotile.com), a Japanese-inspired platform that helps students build and share personal portfolios tile by tile.



BentoTile is designed for students, university applicants, creatives, and early career professionals. It helps turn achievements, projects, activities, skills, coursework, awards, media, and personal story into a polished, shareable portfolio without needing to design or code a website from scratch. The platform is built around a flexible drag and drop tile system, enables one to customise the resume to show the full picture : what you've made, what you've learned, what you care about, and where you're headed.

On 28 September, Elijah and his BentoTile teammates were selected as one only 10 youth startups to be featured at the SAIA A.I. Festival 2026. The event attracted more than 600 working professionals, students and business leaders. Elijah, Ryusei and Benjamin were given a complimentary booth, promotional support, and the rare opportunity to pitch BentoTile on stage to the audience. Elijah said: "Being young founders, we also attracted quite a bit of interest as many wondered why we weren't in school (it was a Monday), which definitely aided our overall impact at the event. Our website was well received by the attendees of the event, and we made our first sales in person!"



The innovative startup was well received and Elijah, Ryusei and Benjamin will receive a $5,000 angel cheque, as well as AI subscriptions and software worth more than $10,000 to enable them to continue experimenting with their idea!

Elijah added: "We will be incorporating BentoTile with this and using it for our running expenses across this year and the following year."

Our heartiest congratulations to Elijah, Ryusei and Benjamin for continuing to raise the ACS (International) flag high beyond the school!

The Best is Yet to Be!



Mid-Autumn Festival: A Celebration of Culture & Tradition

During our school's Mid-Autumn Festival celebration, I took part in creating lantern riddles. I enjoyed the experience because I learnt more about how lantern riddles are traditionally created and the different ways they can be used during the festival. It was interesting to come up with riddles and see others try to solve them. I also enjoyed the other activities, such as learning about the history, myths and legends of the festival, trying mooncakes and carrying lanterns. These activities helped me understand more about the traditions and cultural meaning behind the Mid-Autumn Festival. I enjoyed the festival because I was able to contribute to an activity while also having a lot of fun and learning more about its culture and traditions.



Kathleen Ng (1 TKK)



I learnt a lot about the Mid-Autumn Festival. For example, I found out that there were once ten suns, and a hero named Hou Yi shot down nine of them. He received a magic potion that would allow him to live forever, but he didn't drink it because he wanted to stay with Chang'e. After learning about the story, I realised why the Mid-Autumn Festival is so special.

Elizabeth Gan (1 SVM)

Before researching the Mid-Autumn Festival, I only saw it as a celebration with mooncakes and lanterns, something fun but mostly about food and decorations. After learning more, I discovered that it holds a deeper meaning, centred on family reunion, gratitude and harvest traditions. The round mooncakes symbolise unity, the full moon represents completeness, and lanterns carry the idea of hope and guidance. I also came to appreciate the legends, such as Chang'e flying to the moon, which add cultural heritage and storytelling. My perspective changed from thinking it was just a fun event to understanding it as a tradition that brings families together and keeps culture alive.





Nolting Nayla Janina (1 THO)

While preparing for the Mid-Autumn Festival for several Year 1 classes, my class decided to deliver a presentation. We had limited time to prepare, with only two lessons remaining before the event. To work efficiently, we assigned each topic to a student and held multiple rehearsals to finalise the project, while our teacher helped us manage our time. On the day of the Mid-Autumn Festival, we successfully presented and participated in the activities organised by other classes. Preparing the presentation was a memorable experience for me because it required thorough discussion and collaboration. Taking a break from exam preparation to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival was refreshing, and I hope to participate in similar activities next year.



Kim Saemin (Casey) (1 THO)

Our Foreign Language Chinese class prepared a presentation for the Mid-Autumn Festival. While preparing the presentation, I learnt about its origins, cultural significance, traditions and how people celebrate it. I found it interesting to research the festival, as it introduced me to aspects of Chinese culture that were new to me. Presenting what we had learnt in front of others was also a helpful experience. In addition to the presentation, we tried mooncakes and lit lanterns. Overall, it was a fun and meaningful experience that helped me learn more about and appreciate Chinese culture and traditions.

Kwon Yeru (1 TCT)

First Aid Demonstrations and Warm Connections

First aid is a valuable life skill that everyone should have the opportunity to learn, regardless of age. On 26 September, students from the ACS (International) Medical Society, together with Mr Cheng Yang from the Red Cross Youth, visited Golden Kismis Elder Care Centre to conduct an interactive first aid awareness programme for approximately 40 seniors. The aim of the event was to teach practical skills that could make a life-saving difference during an emergency at home, ensuring every participant had the opportunity to practise.



Setting Up

Our team arrived at around 9am to prepare the space, setting up two dedicated stations. The CPR station was equipped with training dummies and iPads, while the bandaging station was stocked with triangular and crepe bandages. We also maintained a tub of disinfectant wipes to thoroughly clean each dummy between uses. Registration began at 9:30am. Each senior received a group number sticker, dividing them into smaller groups of about ten so that everyone had a clear view of the demonstrations. At 10am, we briefed the participants on the schedule, layout, and interactive nature of the hands-on practice. With the kind help of the centre staff, key points were translated into Mandarin and local dialects for seniors who felt more comfortable in those languages. Starting at 10:10 am, groups rotated between the two stations every 30 minutes.



The CPR Station

Led by Nishya Subhas Prabu (6 LSG), with assistance from Maria Jose Garcia (6 THO), we guided the seniors through the essential steps of DRSABC: recognising an emergency, checking for responsiveness, seeking help, and performing chest compressions. We introduced the DRSABC emergency response sequence:

- Danger: Ensure the area is safe before approaching.
- Response: Tap the person's shoulders and call out clearly.
- Shout for help: Ask someone nearby to dial 995 and retrieve an AED.
- Airway: Tilt the head back gently and lift the chin.
- Breathing: Look, listen, and feel for normal breathing for up to 10 seconds.
- Circulation: If the person is not breathing normally, begin chest compressions immediately.

We then demonstrated proper compression techniques: placing the heel of one hand in the centre of the chest with the other hand clasped on top, keeping arms straight, and compressing down roughly 5cm at a rate of 100 to 120 beats per minute.





To make practice engaging, we linked the dummies to an iPad-based CPR racing game. Compression speed and depth directly powered digital race cars, providing real-time feedback and sparking friendly competition among the seniors. It was wonderful to see their competitive spirit, laughter, and determination as they took turns practicing the technique. Many were surprised by the physical effort required. One participant lightheartedly remarked after his turn that it was harder than carrying his groceries up the stairs! What stood out to us was the seniors' eagerness to participate. Despite the physical effort required for CPR, they approached the activity with enthusiasm and curiosity. Their willingness to learn reminded us that age should never be a barrier to acquiring new skills.

We concluded the station by explaining how to operate an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), emphasising that modern AEDs provide voice prompts at every step and are readily accessible on the ground floor of most HDB blocks.







The Bandaging Station

Arjun Subash Prabu (3 LSG) and Clayton Wibowo (5 GHK) facilitated the bandaging station, covering three essential techniques:

- Arm sling: Used to support an injured arm or wrist. A triangular bandage is positioned under the arm, resting the forearm across the chest with the hand slightly higher than the elbow. The lower end is tied comfortably at the side of the neck to avoid pressure on the spine, securing the corner at the elbow.
- Elbow bandaging: Executed using a crepe bandage wrapped in a figure-of-eight pattern across a slightly bent joint.
- Hand bandaging: Also using a figure-of-eight pattern, starting at the wrist and looping across the palm and back of the hand while keeping fingertips exposed.

We reminded participants to perform circulation checks on fingertips post-bandaging—if fingers become pale, cold, or numb, the bandage must be loosened immediately. The seniors paired up to practise on one another, with participants from earlier groups happily helping others fine-tune their slings during later rotations.

One of the most heartwarming moments was seeing the seniors patiently helping their friends adjust their bandages. Their camaraderie made the session both enjoyable and rewarding. Some initially needed extra guidance, but with practice and encouragement, they grew increasingly confident.

A Bit of Home

During the bandaging session, we overheard someone speaking Bahasa Indonesia. She was a domestic helper assisting one of the seniors. As a fellow Indonesian, Clayton introduced himself and shared a brief, comforting chat about our hometowns while her employer completed her bandaging practice. It was an unexpected moment of warmth and connection.

Later, while refreshments were being prepared, we improvised entertainment for the gathered seniors. Maria Jose connected her phone to the speakers, playing music for an impromptu sing-along. Upon request, Clayton sang “Hati-hati di jalan” by the renowned Indonesian artist Tulus. Stepping up to sing was certainly outside our comfort zone, but seeing the joy on the seniors' faces—and listening to a few of them sing along to classic Chinese songs—made it a truly heartwarming experience.

Lunch and Mid-Autumn Celebrations

At 12:15pm, we gathered with the Red Cross team for a group photograph before heading into the main dining area for lunch at 12:20 pm. To mark the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival, we later helped distribute mooncakes sponsored by the Swiss Club Residents' Network (SCRNN) and Red Cross pouches to the seniors, concluding the event with final commemorative photos.

Acknowledgments

Beyond the technical aspects of first aid, the event taught us the importance of making health education accessible, interactive, and encouraging. It was especially meaningful to see how a simple training session could bring people together through shared learning. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Golden Kismis Elder Care Centre, and the Singapore Red Cross for their support, equipment, and resources . Special thanks to Mr Cheng Yang for his guidance, which helped us conduct the session smoothly. We are also deeply grateful to the centre staff for their invaluable translation support and assistance, as well as to the seniors for their incredible energy and enthusiasm throughout the session.

Through this experience, we learnt that sharing knowledge requires patience, teamwork, and clear communication. More importantly, we realised that community service is not only about teaching others but also about building meaningful connections across generations. This outreach experience strengthened our commitment to community service and reminded us that empowering others with practical knowledge is one of the most meaningful ways we can contribute to society.

Nishya Subash Prabu, Clayton Oliver Wibowo, and Arjun Subash Prabu)







Showing Up with Heart

September and October were filled with meaningful moments as parents and guardians came together to support our students during an important season of milestones.

On Thursday, 17 September, nine PSP Exco members and Year 4 parent volunteers gathered to assemble 360 exam care packs for our IGCSE and IB students. Each pack included healthy and fun snacks, a drink, a fidget toy, and a custom prayer bookmark from PPG. The signature red-and-blue clear pencil pouch was specially designed for students to use during their formal examinations. The following day, on Friday, 18 September, twelve parents returned to check, sort and pack more than 190 graduation mortarboards for our Year 6 students. Each cap was custom embroidered with the student's preferred name and was later presented as a gift of appreciation during the Graduation Rehearsal in October.

On behalf of the PSP Exco Team, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the school and operations teams for providing the time, space and support that made these two meaningful activities possible. Your generous partnership allows us to continue a cherished tradition of standing alongside our children and celebrating their efforts in thoughtful and practical ways. Speaking of celebration, we would also like to express our warm appreciation to Naissha Makhija (5 TKK), Head Girl of the 22nd Prefectorial Board, Head Boy Park Yoonha (5 SVM) and Yun Seojeong (5 THO), for initiating and bringing to life a collection of video messages featuring parents' well-wishes for our Year 6 students. Showcased during the Leavers' Assembly on 7 October, the videos offered a touching reminder of the love, pride, and encouragement surrounding our students as they reached this significant milestone. These two months have reminded us that some of the most meaningful gifts we can offer are our presence and care. As we journey through the remainder of this remarkable school year, may we continue to embrace our community with compassion, gratitude and hope.

Your PSP Exco Team







Study Nights: Nourishing our students, Building a Community of Care

Over the weeks leading up to the Year 4 IGCSE and Year 6 IB examinations, Tuesday and Thursday evenings became something special at school. As part of the Parent School Partners (PSP) initiative, students gathered in the school canteen to enjoy dinner and dessert before returning to the library for their study sessions over 8 weeks, from October to November. What began as an opportunity to provide a meal has grown into a much-loved tradition, bringing comfort, encouragement and a welcome break to students during this demanding period.

Behind every Study Night is a dedicated team of parent volunteers, school staff and community members who generously give their time and energy to make each evening a success. From planning menus and preparing meals to serving food and creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere, everyone plays a part in making our students feel supported and cared for. It is especially rewarding to see students look forward to dinner, enjoy their favourite dishes and share happy moments with their friends before settling down to study.

This year, we introduced two exciting features that have added even more fun and anticipation to Study Nights. Each Study Night features a different theme inspired by various characters, bringing a fresh and playful twist to every evening. In addition, students who discover a sticker hidden underneath their bento boxes will receive a character-related prize creatively sourced by one of our Year 6 PSP Exco parent volunteers! The excitement of checking beneath each bento has become a delightful highlight, bringing smiles, laughter and a little extra surprise to dinner time.

The joy is not limited to the students. For our volunteers, seeing the students enjoy their meals, eagerly participate in the activities and return to their studies with happy faces makes every effort worthwhile. These evenings offer a wonderful opportunity for parents, teachers and community members to connect with one another while contributing to the well-being of our students. The friendships formed, the laughter shared and the gratitude expressed remind us that even a simple meal can make a meaningful difference.

Study Nights would not be possible without the generous support of our parent volunteers, school staff, library team, Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC) Christian Ministry staff and volunteers, and the PSP Exco Study Night Planning Team. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has contributed their time, resources and kindness to this initiative. Together, we are creating more than just a dinner service: we are building a caring community that helps our students feel encouraged, connected and ready to do their best.

To all our Year 4 and Year 6 students, we wish you every success in your examinations. May the meals, laughter and encouragement shared during Study Nights remind you that you are never alone on this journey!

Megumi Murata (PSP Exco)

Volunteering has given me a lovely opportunity to see the students relax and enjoy their meals during the busy IB and IGCSE period. I'm truly grateful to the school and PSP for their support. Thank you for such a wonderful experience!

Chika Inoue (Parent of Kyotaro Inoue [4 SVM] and Sotaro Inoue [3 SVM])

What a blessing it is to be part of Study Nights and see our international community of parents coming together to help prepare and serve the food to the students who came with eager hearts and hungry bellies. It isn't just the variety of food that warms the heart but the spontaneous interactions between the students and their friends, and to have time set aside to mingle and interact beyond the books which is so precious.

Daphne Tan (Year 6 parent)

I am so grateful to be able to serve our students during this exam season - to be present with them, pray alongside them, and cheer them on every step of the way. All the very best to our Year 4 and Year 6 students for your IGCSEs and IB exams! We hope the food, desserts, snacks and drink brought you a little comfort, encouragement and motivation to keep going!! You've got this!

Karen Loo (Parent of Year 6 student Averie Grace Tan)






















We With Nepal

The ACS (International) Red Cross Youth Chapter raised funds in support of the Singapore Red Cross humanitarian response for communities affected by the floods in Nepal.

The WE WITH NEPAL campaign aims to bring together students, parents, staff, alumni, families and friends of the ACS community to contribute towards this humanitarian cause.

On Tuesday 22 September, Nishya Subash Prabu, Chairman of the ACS (International) Red Cross Chapter, attended the Singapore Red Cross Awards Ceremony, graced by President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, to receive the Red Cross Youth Chapter Award.

You can donate through this link.









Project Inkspire

Project Inkspire was created to give children living with cancer, and their caregivers, an outlet to express themselves through art, while raising awareness and supporting the community around them.

In August, our team ran art jamming sessions at VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer, with around 30 children and caregivers taking part. Watching the artworks come to life was heartwarming, but it is the laughter and stories shared in those sessions that will forever stay with us. One child drew a fox to represent joy and strength in difficult situations, a reminder that these young artists are far more than their cancer diagnosis. That idea shaped our "Sparks of Joy" exhibition, held in September in commemoration of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Around 40 pieces were displayed, and around 300 visitors came to see the creativity, resilience and individuality of each artist.







We are grateful to Pacific Bookstore for donating art supplies, and Holland Village Methodist Church for giving us the space to host the art gallery. We also extend our gratitude to everyone who supported the exhibition and contributed to our fundraising efforts. Through art sales and donations, we have raised more than $29,000, which will go to our non-profit partners, Arc Children's Centre and VIVA Foundation, to support children and families affected by cancer.



This initiative has reminded us to pay attention to the small pleasures in life, and to see art as both catharsis and expression. It gave all of us a way to say what can be hard to say. Most notably, I am incredibly blessed to have shared this journey with such a like-minded and committed team. From the beginning to the final exhibition, their passion, dedication and unwavering support made Project Inkspire a success. I truly could not have asked for a better team to bring this project to life with. We extend our appreciation to Mdm Koh Leng Khim for supervising us throughout the entirety of the project.



Once again, I hope everyone enjoyed experiencing “Sparks of Joy” as much as we enjoyed creating it, and that you left with something meaningful to take away from the stories and creativity shared through Project Inkspire.

Project Inkspire Team
Founder – Belle Khoo (6 SVM)
Co-Founder – Jacob Christopher Budiman (5 SVM)
Community Engagement Lead – Cheang Liam (6 OLD)
Operations Director – Jayden Christian Budiman (6 SVM)





How I Built My Dream Guitar On A $150 Budget

I have big musical tastes and a very small bank account. When I set my sights on a dream guitar with a $2,000 price tag, buying it was not an option. But during the March school break, I discovered something inspiring: my hero, Eddie Van Halen, built his own guitars in the band's early days including the famous instrument behind the legendary solo *Eruption*.

After diving into online tutorials, I realised electric guitar mechanics are surprisingly simple. I decided to build my own version of Eddie's iconic 1978 guitar over the June holidays.

The DIY Process



- **Painting:** I sanded the body, applied a black base coat, used painter's tape to lay out a custom pattern, and sprayed on the top white coat.
- **Assembly:** I bolted on the neck and bridge, then spent hours soldering the electronics and hand-screwing every tiny component (including one makeshift screw from around the house).

The Heart-Stop Moment!

I brought the assembled guitar to a local shop to get strung. The tech plugged it in, hit a note, and... *nothing.* Confused and defeated, I brought it to a local luthier. He looked at me in shock he'd never seen someone my age build a guitar from scratch. When he asked why I didn't just buy one, I gave him the honest answer: *"I'm broke."*
He chuckled, opened it up, and spotted my rookie mistake: I had mixed up the wiring. A few days later, he had it wired correctly and ready to rock.

What $150 bought me

The guitar has its quirks. The paint is not flawless, the bridge is slightly off-centre, and the high E string sits a little high. But it works, it sounds awesome, and it is completely mine.

I saved more than $1,850, but the biggest lesson was priceless: great music doesn't come from expensive gear. It comes from the person playing it.

Nara SR (3 SVM)



Exploring Music, Memory, and the Human Mind

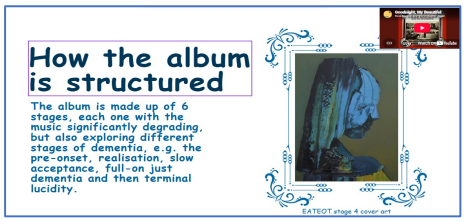
What started as a Year 1 Term 4 music assignment quickly turned into a deep dive into human health, memory, and sound.

As part of our music analysis project, we decided to explore how music connects with health and the human brain. We focused our research on *Everywhere at the End of Time*, a massive 6.5-hour musical project created by artist James Leyland Kirby (under the stage name *The Caretaker*). The series of six albums uses sound to map out the progression of Alzheimer's disease and memory loss.

How Music Mirrors Memory

Kirby built the album series using over 150 to 200 vintage music samples mostly 1920s to 1940s ballroom, jazz, and big band records. He uses clever audio techniques to represent what happens inside a patient's mind:

- **Static and Crackle:** As the music progresses, vinyl crackle and static grow louder, symbolising memories fading and blurring over time.
- **Layered Sounds**: Multiple songs are played on top of each other, creating a chaotic effect that mirrors how confusing it is when different layers of memory stop working properly.
- **Repeating Melodies:** The album frequently repeats the 1931 song "Heartaches," but each repetition becomes more distorted. This shows how people living with dementia often cling to specific memories, even as the details subtly change.



Sample page of our Music Presentation



Example of the layering in the later few tracks.

Musical Storytelling & Complex Phenomena

One of the most fascinating aspects of our research was seeing how the album illustrates complex medical phenomena like terminal lucidity, a sudden, brief moment where a patient unexpectedly regains their clarity and full memory right before passing away.

In the final track, *"Place in the world fades away,"* Kirby represents this moment through sound:

- The track opens with thick, steady vinyl static, representing the disease's heavy grip.
- Suddenly, an angelic choir snippet plays (a sample from J.S. Bach), symbolizing the sudden surge of memory.
- The track gently fades back into silence, marking the end of life.



Stage 1 Album Cover

Key Takeaway

Through this project, we learnt that music is more than just entertainment it can be a powerful tool for empathy and understanding. *Everywhere at the End of Time* is a creative, poignant exploration of a health condition that affects millions worldwide. While a 6.5-hour project is a big commitment, it is an incredible demonstration of how music and health intersect!

Jason Wang (1 TCT) and Koi Kieron Ho (1 TKK)

Invited Youth Speaker @NUS

On 29 September, we had the opportunity to represent ACS (International) at the National University of Singapore (NUS), where Nathan Alexandro Tjhe (6SVM), was invited by Dr Tan Lai Yong from the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine to speak to Year 2 undergraduates at the College of Alice & Peter Tan (CAPT).

Titled "Youth, Service, and the Ethics of Care", the sharing brought together NUS undergraduates from Medicine, Business and Engineering to explore the role of young people in community service. Drawing from his experience founding the Peduli Initiative, Nathan shared how simple observations of Indonesian migrant workers in Singapore developed into a youth-led initiative supporting vulnerable communities. He highlighted three key lessons: turning observation into action, moving beyond material giving, and building sustainable community impact.

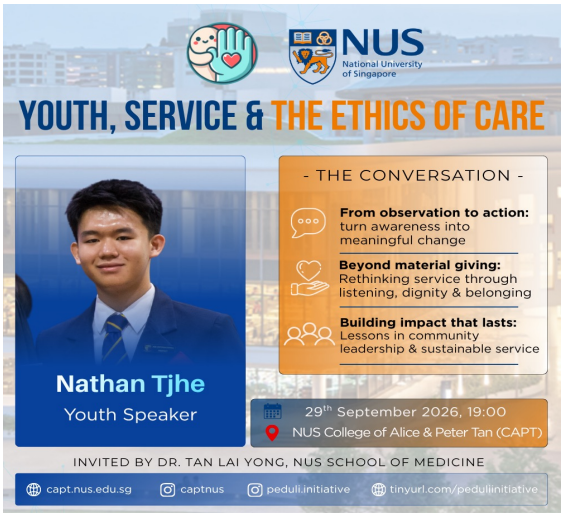
Beyond the sharing, Dr Tan kindly took us on a tour of CAPT, introducing us to its distinctive residential college experience, including its credit-bearing academic curriculum and emphasis on community engagement. We were particularly inspired by how CAPT seeks to nurture socially responsible future leaders, reflecting the values of service and leadership that ACS (International) strives to instill in its students.

Dr Tan also shared his experiences working in rural Yunnan, China, where he contributed to community healthcare and education, including initiatives involving local healthcare workers known as "barefoot doctors". His stories offered valuable perspectives on humility, compassion, and the importance of understanding communities before serving them. We were especially grateful to receive a copy of his book, "Biting the Bamboo", as a thoughtful reminder of these lessons.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Dr Tan for his generous invitation and warm hospitality. Special thanks also go to our fellow students, Caitlyn Jeavin Santosa (6 LSG), Rian Umeno (6 TKK) and Yuna Seo (6 GHK), for their encouragement and support throughout the evening.







Testimonials

"Thank you for your sharing at CAPT, you did an inspiring sharing – concise yet comprehensive"

Dr Tan Lai Yong,
Yong Loo Lin School Of Medicine

"You're a great speaker and we enjoyed listening to how your project has been going and I admire your faithful service to the community in really understanding what they need. May you continue to find favour in succession and sustaining this project!"

Lazary Lok,
NUS Y2 Undergraduate at CAPT

Teacher's Day Celebrations

On 28 August, the Student Council organised our annual Teachers' Day celebration with the theme of "404: Teachers Not Found". This year's celebration took the form of a story that unfolded over the course of the morning, in which a rogue artificial intelligence program had caused all of the school's teachers to disappear, leaving the students to find a way to bring them back.



The assembly opened with a short film styled as an episode of "Keeping Up with Council". In it, students reported a series of strange events around the school, from a study website that stopped working whenever a teacher was mentioned to timetables on which teachers' names had been scrambled. By the end of the film, it was clear that the teachers were missing. Our emcees, Dylan and Phoebe, then entered the Sports Hall dressed as detectives to lead the search, and were soon joined on screen by "Special Agent John Cooper", played by Clayton, who spent the rest of the morning tracking down and disabling the program as the assembly worked on distracting and convincing the rogue AI to relinquish the teachers. The assembly featured faculty-themed games, such as Jeopardy© and Pictionary©, in which student volunteers competed in challenges inspired by our teachers. Student performances by the 22nd Prefectorial Board ran throughout the morning. Each game was dedicated to a different faculty. In the Humanities and Languages round, participants were asked to identify teachers from samples of their handwriting, which proved more difficult than many expected. The Mathematics and Science round took the form of a Jeopardy© quiz, while the Physical Education round was a game of charades, with prompts that included "Teachers became instruments" and "The Mona Lisa: Mr Kinch Edition". The Arts round was a drawing relay in which each team member was given less time than the one before, with members of the audience racing to guess the final picture. In total, 41 student volunteers from all eight houses, ranging from Year 1 to Year 6, took part in the games. The day before, students who had signed up for "Ctrl C Ctrl V" appeared dressed as their teachers. Among the entries were teams involving Mr Chia Choong Kiat, Mdm Koh Leng Khim and Ms Claire Tan, whose class arrived dressed up as a police officer and prison inmates. The costumes were well received by students and teachers alike. Once the students had shut down the program and the teachers had been safely returned, the Student Council presented a set of teacher superlatives in the style of Spotify Wrapped, recognising our teachers for a number of memorable and light-hearted achievements over the year. The assembly concluded with a dance performance by the Prefectorial Board, which brought the morning to a lively close. Beyond the assembly itself, every teacher received a handwritten card at their seat before the programme began. These cards were written by the Prefectorial Board, and were intended as a personal and lasting expression of thanks from the student body.



The Student Council would like to thank all the volunteers, performers and staff members who helped to make this year's celebration possible, and in particular the teachers who supported the planning process from the start. Most of all, we would like to thank our teachers for their dedication, patience and care, not only on Teachers' Day but on every day of the school year.



Term 4 Birthday Celebration at Oldham Hall

Celebrating birthdays with our boarders at the boarding hall is always a joyful and heart-warming occasion. This Term 4 birthday celebration on 28 October allowed boarders to feel relaxed after a busy week preparing and sitting for their End of Year Examination. Ms Miho Tsumura, our Japanese Language teacher volunteered her help with setting up the food and taking the attendance of our boarders! From sharing food and laughter, each celebration brought the boarders together in a meaningful way. Such simple celebrations help strengthen friendships, nurture a sense of belonging, and remind our boarders that the boarding hall is truly their home away from home.

We are proud to celebrate these milestones with our boarders and to create lasting memories within our caring boarding community.

Mdm Chin Siew Lin, International Student Coordinator
& Mdm Goh Wei Li, Assistant International Student Coordinator















Guardian & Wards Thanksgivings Get Together

On 16 October I had a wonderful time at the gathering organised by my guardian in collaboration with Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC). My guardians Celine and Jack organised a delicious Chinese dinner, where everyone gathered around the table to share food, stories, and laughter. The warm and lively atmosphere made the meal even more enjoyable.

Before dinner, we took part in a fun and relaxing activity: competing in teams to build the tallest structure using only straws. It was exciting to brainstorm ideas, test different designs, and cheer one another on as the towers grew taller—and occasionally wobbled or collapsed! The friendly competition encouraged creativity, communication, and teamwork, while giving all of us a much-needed break from our busy routines.

This gathering was especially meaningful during this stressful exam period. It gave me a precious opportunity to step away from academic pressure, clear my mind, and simply enjoy the present moment with my friends. I am thankful for the laughter, encouragement, and sense of togetherness we shared. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the pastor who specially joined us and offered a meaningful prayer. His presence and words brought comfort, peace, and a sense of blessing to the gathering.

It was a truly memorable evening filled with delicious food and joy. I am very grateful to my guardian for organising it and to everyone who has made the gathering such a special experience.

Niu Xiaoran (5 TCT)



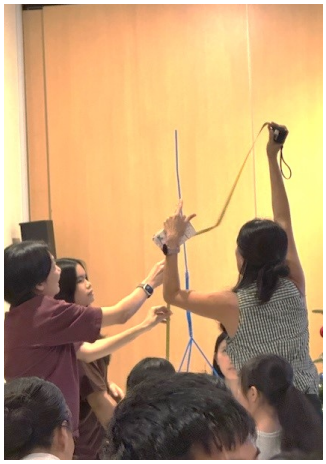













HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

On 25 September, the Higher Education and Careers Department hosted its annual Industry Partners' Appreciation Dinner to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the partners who relentlessly support our Job Shadowing Programme year after year. The cosy, welcoming ambience of the Sitorus Library was the perfect backdrop for meaningful interactions and intimate conversations with more than 50 of our esteemed industry guests. The evening's atmosphere was elevated by breathtaking musical showcases, featuring a soulful piano performance by Matthew Quek (3 CKS) and enchanting guzheng pieces by Amina Lo (5 THO). Adding a personal touch to the evening, five of our Year 5 students — Timothy Lee (5 LSG), Kim Doyeon (5 TCT), Tammy Ng (5 LSG), Joel Chan (5 TKK), and Naissha Makhija (5 TKK) — shared their first-hand job-shadowing experiences. They spoke passionately about the new industry insights they gained, real-world role expectations, and their deep gratitude for the guidance provided by their mentors.

The dinner was a resounding success, filled with great food, warm fellowship, and inspiring stories. As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding the Job Shadowing Programme into a broader array of industries — ensuring our students continue to access enriching, insightful, and inspiring real-world learning opportunities.





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Published with permission from Dr Gerald Tan of Elite Dental Group Singapore

Student Voices

"Presenting at the Job Shadowing appreciation dinner was a valuable experience, mixed with enthusiasm and faint anxiety! I'm grateful to have been given this opportunity to share my remarkable time with Michele Lim and Associates. I sincerely hope that all guests enjoyed our presentations and thank you for your continued support of our school!"

Tammy Ng (5 LSG)

This year, I was honoured to perform the Guzheng at our school's Industry Partners' Appreciation Dinner. I was delighted that the audience enjoyed the performance and that everything went smoothly. The highlight of the evening was meeting my previous Job Shadowing supervisor, whom I had not seen since March! I am grateful for everything they taught me during my Job Shadowing experience, and our conversation that evening gave me new insights once again. Thank you partners for your continued guidance and inspiration to all of us!

Amina Lo (5 THO)

"Attending the Partner's Appreciation Dinner and meeting my job attachment partners outside of their formal work setting, was truly an insightful experience. I deeply enjoyed the various conversations with everyone, as well as having the opportunity to share my experience and hear my fellow friends' reflections. I sincerely appreciate all industry partners' guidance and encouragement throughout our attachment programmes and hope to further broaden my horizon with their experiences!"

Naissha Makhija (5 TKK)



Kim Doyeon (5 TCT) sharing on her Job Shadowing experience



Piano performance by Matthew Quek (3 CKS)



Timothy Lee (5 LSG) sharing on his Job Shadowing experience



Joel Chan (5 TKK) sharing on his Job Shadowing experience



Guzheng performance by Amina Lo (5 THO)

University Information Sessions in October: NYU and USC

We were delighted to welcome representatives from New York University (NYU) and the University of Southern California (USC) to ACS (International) for university information sessions with our students. The sessions provided valuable insights into academic programmes, admissions processes, campus life and the opportunities available to students pursuing higher education in the United States. Students had the opportunity to interact directly with university representatives, ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of the university application process.

We are grateful to NYU and USC for their time and for supporting our students in making informed decisions about their higher education pathways.



Year 6 Students and Ms Maria Carvalho, International Admission Officer, University of Southern California



Year 6 Students and Ms Bridget Halstead, Assistant Director of Admissions, New York University

GRADUATION CEREMONY

2026

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Guest-of-Honour

Mr Christopher Ong, SC

Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Attorney-General's Chambers

14 | Nov | 2026

10:00am (Seated By 9:45am)

University Cutural Centre, Ho Bee Auditorium, National University of Singapore

THE BEST IS YET TO BE

ACS (International)

RSVP by scanning the QR code or clicking on this **link** by 2nd November 2026, 12PM.

For enquiry, please contact Ms Jessie Yeung: **jessie.yeung@acsinternational.edu.sg**