



Newsletter

Issue: 2016 / March



Cover

Taken from HIS' recent successful staging of the musical *Oliver!*, this scene shows Oliver Twist with Fagin's indignant orphans, all of whom were about to show him why he shouldn't have dared ask for more food.

Contents

Message

- * Principal 3

Special Feature

- * Up Close & Personal
Behind the Scenes at HIS 18

Academic Corner

- * Preschool IPC Update and Year 1 Field Trip 5
- * Year 3 IPC Update and Year 4 Field Trip 6
- * Year 5 Maths Lesson 7
- * Year 11 Special Leavers Assembly 8
- * The Joy of Sports 15

School Events

- * Preschool Sports Carnival 9
- * KS 1 Sports Carnival 10
- * KS 2 Sports Day 11
- * Secondary & A-Levels Sports Day 13
- * Career Week 17
- * *OLIVER!* The Musical 21
- * H'Oscars 2016 23
- * Model United Nations Conference 24
- * Autism Awareness Assembly 25
- * Once Upon A Miao / Year 9 & 10 Dance Party 26
- * Chinese New Year Assembly 27

Student Corner

- * Student Achievements / Work 28

Alumni News

- * Sharing by Joshua Susai Nathen 30

DISCLAIMER:

This newsletter including any attachments may contain confidential & privileged information and is intended solely for the use of the recipient(s). If you have received it in error, please notify the sender and delete all the contents permanently from all kinds of storage devices. Unauthorised distribution or dissemination of this newsletter is strictly prohibited. Please be informed that views or opinions found in this email are solely that of the author and do not necessarily represent HELP Education Services Sdn Bhd. HELP Education Services Sdn Bhd disclaims all warranties to the content of this email and shall not be liable for any loss or damage to the person and /or their property caused by this email.

HELP International School

No 2 Persiaran Cakerawala,
Subang Bestari, Seksyen U4,
40150 Shah Alam, Selangor.

Tel: 03-78097000 • Fax: 03-78097014

E-mail: enquiry@kl.his.edu.my

Website: www.his.edu.my

Facebook: facebook.com/HELPInternationalSchool

Message from the Principal



There have been some fabulous achievements in this half term: individual and team successes in competitions; the wonderful production of Oliver; our Sports Days; Career Week; and visits from authors and other guest speakers. The events have all helped to enliven what has been an intense and enjoyable few weeks. Please do follow us on Facebook, read the bulletins and weekly reports to get a flavour of the events at school and see some great photographs from these initiatives.

Despite all these events, it is important to note that this is also a period for exam revision and preparation. Our Year 11 students will soon be experiencing a period of study leave and the A-Levels students are getting ready for their final exams. For these students in particular, it is important to take care of health, sleep and energy. Our teachers are there to help and we are looking forward to students celebrating achievements and relaxing at their graduation ball.

Staff training has been a focus for us as we continue to build our teams. In addition to further recruitment, which I will mention below, staff have been on learning visits to Singapore, and some attended training by Apple Creative Educator Academy with the Australian International School staff, while others have been part of the IPC Festival of Learning at the Nexus International School. HIS was also selected as a school to visit by local and overseas educators who attended the global IPSEF (International and Private Schools Education Forum) conference held in Kuala Lumpur this month .

A couple of changes are happening this term which include the departure of Mr Carroll Moreton as well as Ms Sharon Mannaseh, who is relocating to New Zealand to pursue a doctorate degree. We wish them well and thank them for their service and dedication at HIS. We also have Ms Ewa Gueguen who is departing for maternity leave. We look forward to seeing her when she returns in January. We are welcoming Mr Chai Min Huing to our physics and maths departments and Ms Susannah Read to humanities. Watch out for further announcements for other new staff members arriving and updates in our weekly bulletins.



We were also fortunate to enjoy the wedding of our admin team's Ms Saleha. We wish her and her husband much happiness.

Life in international schools is always dynamic and changing. Teachers find the pace and difference exhilarating but also demanding. It is natural that some staff look to new challenges or want to return home after a few years. However, we are fortunate that HIS is growing successfully and is able to attract excellent replacements to facilitate our continued achievement. I have been able to recruit some superb teachers to replace expatriate teachers leaving this year. Our commitment to quality training and development also means that we can attract the best Malaysian candidates as well. While it is with some sadness that staff move on (and will be no doubt missed) please be assured that quality control is very much in place for the forthcoming academic year. If anyone has worries about this process of change, please approach us directly and we can ensure you are fully informed and 'in the loop'. We always want to be transparent about developments at our school. Profiles on our new teachers will be published as soon as we are able and at the appropriate time.

Once again, I would like to thank staff and parents for their continued support and for making this term such an excellent one. Looking ahead, I wish our Checkpoint, IGCSE and A-Levels students the very best for their examinations. I hope you enjoy a very happy term / Easter break. Please travel safely.

Vita Ad Plenitudinem.

Ms Davina McCarthy



Senior members of our leadership team visiting Hwa Chong Institute in Singapore.

(left to right) Dr Sandra Tan of Hwa Chong, Mr Mark Jones, Ms Eng, Mr Anthony Woods, Ms Pei Shee



HIS had the privilege of hosting a visit by a group of local and overseas educators who were the delegates of the global IPSEF conference (International and Private Schools Education Forum).

Academic Corner



Preschool IPC :
Transportation
Boxcar Competition



Year 1 IPC : I'm Alive
Zoo Negara Field Trip



Year 3 IPC : Solid, Liquid or Gas

The Year 3s built their own solar ovens out of tyres or cardboard boxes to investigate how energy moves when matter changes state, in this case solid chocolate changing into s'more chocolate.

In the international aspect, they looked at where solar ovens are used and why they are becoming more popular around the world.



Year 4 IPC : Temples, Tombs and Treasures

Historic Tour of KL Field Trip

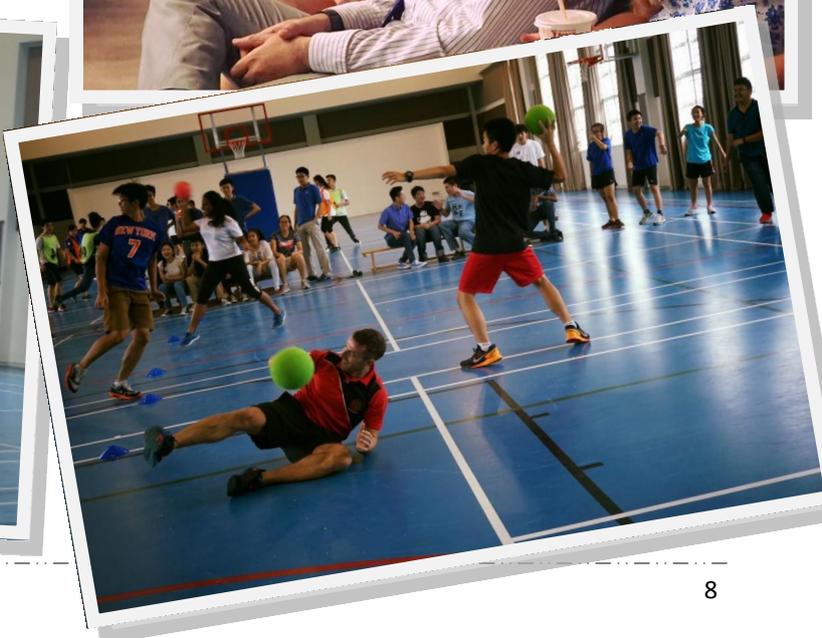


Year 11 Special Leavers Assembly

The Year 11s got together for a special leavers assembly before they started their study leave for IGCSE. There were also interclass games / sports (with some teachers participating) and pizza lunch party.

"The Year 11 Leavers' Assembly was filled with tears and laughter. During the teacher dedications, we got the chance to roast/thank the teachers. The homeroom teachers then took the opportunity to talk about each of their classes.

After that, came our embarrassing baby photos! We then got hyped up for the superlative awards section, where the winners of titles like 'Future World Leader' and 'Math Whiz' were announced. People started to get teary-eyed when a video showing the teachers giving short messages of encouragement was played."





PRESCHOOL SPORTS CARNIVAL

March 3





KS 1 SPORTS CARNIVAL

March 11



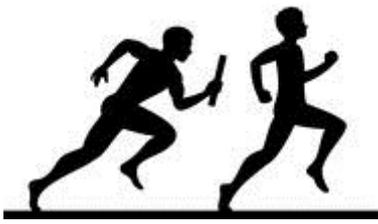


KS 2 SPORTS DAY

March 17

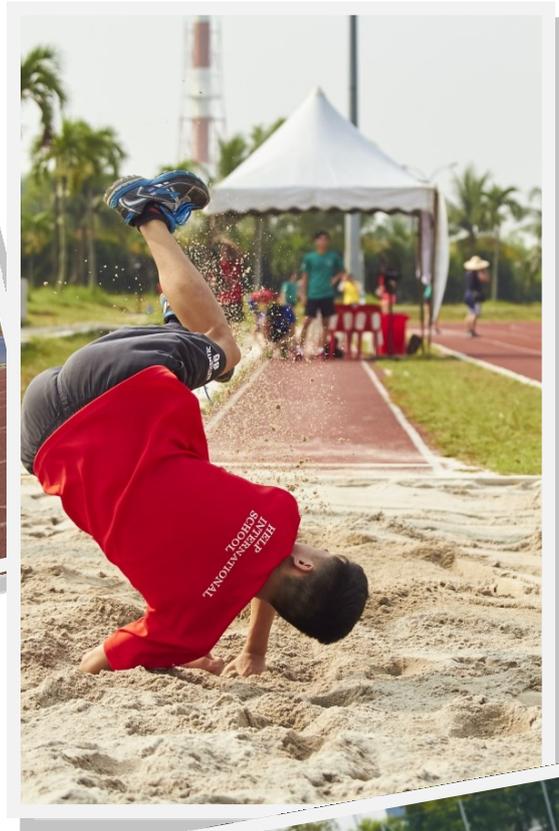
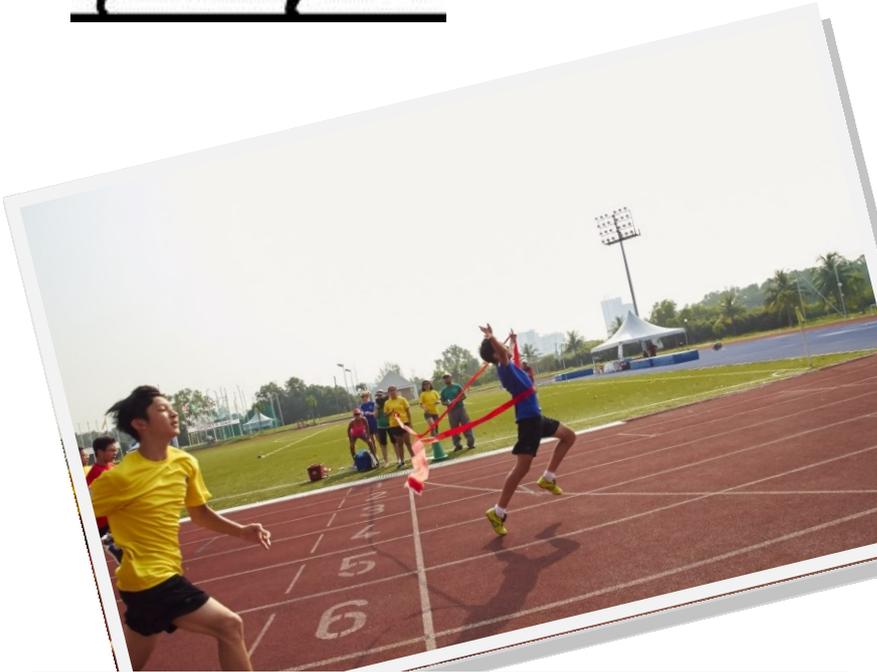


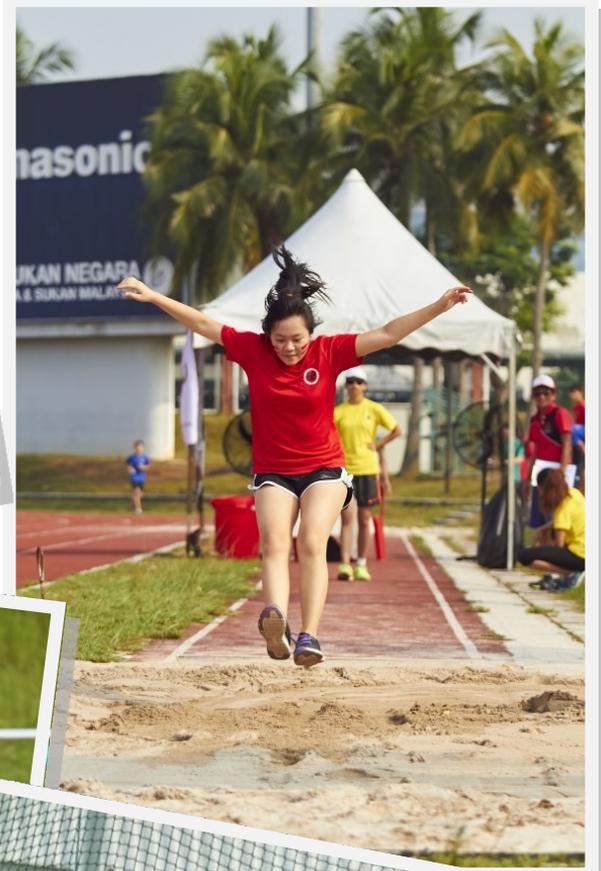




SECONDARY & A-LEVELS SPORTS DAY

March 18





“The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure. These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur.”

~ Vince Lombardi

THE JOY OF SPORTS



Brian Chang (Year 9)

From a young age, I was inspired by my dad and his friends playing golf. I started from the age of three and growing up, I've found it to be a really good stress reliever. Tournaments are a great opportunity for making new friends and have been a brilliant exposure to competitive life.

Russell Lam (Year 6)

My favourite sport is football. I enjoy playing in a team and scoring goals. My sports idol is Cristiano Ronaldo, he plays the same position as me (left wing) I admire him as he was not gifted in his skills, but has worked really hard to become the footballer he is today.



Khaw Kayeen (Year 5)

My favourite sport is either running or swimming. Running makes me feel really calm and I feel so free when I am in the water. I love football and my favorite player is David De Gea as he plays the same position as me (goalkeeper). He inspires me to be better.

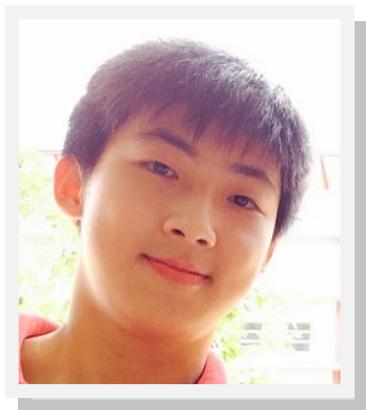
Serena Shanaia Selvam (Year 9)

My greatest achievement was when I was in the quarter-finals of the Port Dixon's Women's Open. I beat the top seeded woman to get through to the semi-finals. I came back from her Match Point to win overall.



Austin Cheong (Year 10)

I think to be a great sportsperson you have to respect your opponent, no matter whether they are better than you or not.



Pneh Lib Kai (Year 11)

I've always had a competitive spirit. I never want to lose. I look up to Chia Vern Kye because he's trained longer than me and has collected more medals than me.

Adam Abdul Karim (Year 7)

When I was five, I didn't like water and at one point, I nearly drowned. This spurred me on to start swimming classes at six. At my first competition, I was so scared but I did really well and that spurred me on to beat my time in the next race. I'm really competitive, but more against myself than other people.





CAREER WEEK

March 7—11

Career Week 2016 focused on helping students to prepare for the real world.

This year, our teachers teaching Career Development organised a Young Entrepreneur Zone for Secondary students. It comprised of Year 7 and Year 8 students coming out with business ideas, planning and preparing to market and sell their products over six days. The event was well received by students and staff. Many were looking forward to patronise the students' stalls as products varied each day. The net profit was RM 4,514.00. The proceeds were given to The Association of Learning Disabilities to support the vocational training, living skills education of these youth, which will allow them to live an independent and productive life and be contributing members of the society.

We were very fortunate to host Onn San (film scorer of the recent film Ola-Bola), Pui San (Director and Founder of Green Harvest Sdn. Bhd.), who came to share their work experience with our students, and Justin Yap (lecturer and counselor from CAREERsense HELP University), who delivered a session on 21st Century Skills to our KS4 students. We want to thank all parents in KS1 and KS2 who volunteered to run a show-and-tell of their work for our primary school students.



Up Close & Personal

BEHIND THE SCENES AT HIS

Since the setting up of HELP International School in January 2014, the school has had the privilege to be served by a team of dedicated administrative staff who work behind the scenes quietly. We would like to cover the various wonderful personalities in this team over two issues of 'Up Close and Personal'.

Ms Eng Yoke Har – Chief Operating Officer

Having worked with the HELP Education Group for the last 14 years, Ms Eng Yoke Har was appointed HIS Chief Operating Officer two years ago. Ms Eng is a veteran Group Registrar in the education industry with close to 20 years of experience.

Originally from Port Dickson, Ms Eng is also a mother to three lovely daughters aged 6, 7 and 10. When she is not busy tackling the various operational challenges in school, Ms Eng enjoys spending quality time with her family and taking them to the beaches that she grew up playing on.

What is a typical day like for you?

I work with a big team where everyone has different roles and is often multi-tasking. On a regular basis, we face different challenges in ensuring daily operations in the school run smoothly. I see myself as a problem-solver. I am thankful that the team we have is ever so positive and resourceful, and we are able to work together to resolve issues and come up with creative and practical ideas to improve our services.

What projects are you currently working on?

Currently, Human Resource is one of the key areas I am focusing on, including staff welfare, staff recruitment and retention. At HIS, our connection with the university and other partner institutions provides us many opportunities for continuous professional development.



Ms Eng Yoke Har, COO of HIS

What's your vision for the school?

I have been with the HELP Education Group for the last 14 years and I know this is an organisation that takes education seriously. I believe all of us from the leadership to staff team will continue to uphold our vision of life in all its fullness for our students. In terms of operation, we aim to serve our students, teachers and parents more efficiently and effectively. Mistakes are inevitable in a school this size. But more importantly, we are a school that is always striving to reflect, improve and make changes for the better.



Ms Eng with family

Ms Pan Ju Yit – School Manager

Ms Ju Yit joined HIS less than half a year ago. Being a former headmistress' daughter, her mother's passion for education has certainly made an impact on her choice of career. With a Master's in Business Administration, Ju Yit has been working in the education industry as well as in the area of training and development for youth since her university years.

As a school manager, Ju Yit oversees a wide array of areas ranging from security and safety, maintenance, cleanliness, purchasing, liaising with vendors such as the school cafeteria / uniform shop / book shop / transporters, and on school events, field trips and so on.

What is a typical day like for you?

There is no typical day for me and my team. It can start with a sequential to-do-list to any number of things, like setting up the stadium for Sports Days, preparing the Multipurpose Hall for Parent-Teacher Meetings, dismantling the sets and props for the school musical production, or arranging for field trips' logistic needs.

What are some of the current projects you're working on?

Currently, I am working on reviewing the safety and security features in the school, service of our external providers and internal protocols in preparation to accommodate a higher student and teacher population for the next academic year.

Your team can be likened to the Invisibles, they often work before anyone arrives and are the last to leave. What would you say makes it work?

The combination of early mornings, late nights and long hours is enough to make anyone crazy, but because of the synergy of our team, we make it work. We work well together, we laugh together, and we get the job done.



Head Cleaner Rubil (3rd from right) and some of his team of cleaners



Ju Yit (left) and her sidekick Jacqueline who joined HIS since its inception



Mr Cheah (3rd from right), with over 35 years of experience in security, and some of his team of security personnel



Our Maintenance heroes – Thachna (on the left, 12 years in HELP) and Kishok (6 years in HELP), are usually the first to arrive at HIS every morning and the last to leave the school compound every evening

Ms Sasi Balasingham – Admissions and Administration Manager

Ms Sasi is a part of the founding HELP alumni, having completed both her A-Levels and Bachelor's degree at the first HELP building at Kampung Attap, Kuala Lumpur, more than 20 years ago. She has certainly seen the educational institution grow, from HELP Institute to HELP University, and now expanding its services to including preschool, primary and secondary education. Prior to joining HIS, Ms Sasi was working in international schools in Doha and South Africa.

What is a typical day like for you?

For me, the day starts before 7am in school every day.

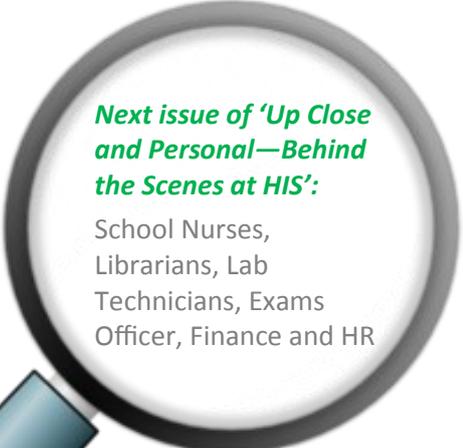
We are the front liners for the school on any enquiries or administrative matters from admissions and fees, to meal plans, parking, updating students' records and preparing interim reports etc; pretty much everything administrative under the sun in a school setting.

What projects are you currently working on?

We are currently busy with admissions and entry assessments for students enrolling in the new academic year. We are also reviewing our internal processes to streamline procedures, so that we can serve the needs of a growing school better.

How far do you think HELP has come since its humble beginnings in the first shop lot building?

The growth has been exponential! It has gone from strength to strength, and its reputation has surpassed itself. The founders, Datuk Dr Paul Chan and Datin Chan, have always treated HELP staff like family. A number of our colleagues at HIS have been serving with the HELP Education Group for more than 10 years. I think we really appreciate working in a culture like this.



Next issue of 'Up Close and Personal—Behind the Scenes at HIS':

School Nurses,
Librarians, Lab
Technicians, Exams
Officer, Finance and HR



Ms Sasi and her team - Amran Awang (front left) who has been working with the HELP group for the past 17 years, Wong Ai Lee (back right) for the past 12 years, and Deborah Adison (back left) who recently completed her law degree



OLIVER

February 26 & 27







H'OSCARS 2016

March 24



The 3rd Annual H'Oscars were an amazing success. Organised by Ms Helena and Ms Deborah, the students celebrated their achievements in style. The most special moment for me was seeing the cast come back together and witnessing that the genuine affection they had developed over the course of the production was still strong. I am genuinely proud of all the cast, crew and volunteers' achievements and look forward to working with them all next year.

~ Mr James DeGazio, Director

And the winners are:

- ★ **Best Female Actor:**
Bharggavi Shanmuganan (*Nancy*)
- ★ **Best Male Actor:**
Theodore Cameron Barrett-Marshall (*Fagin*)
- ★ **Best Male Comedy Performance:**
Tusharr Palar Tharmalingam (*Noah Claypoole*)
- ★ **Best Female Comedy Performance:**
Carmen Lee Jia-myn (*Dr Grimwig*)
- ★ **Best Character Performance Male:**
Valentino Tew (*Mr Brownlow*)
- ★ **Best Character Performance Female:**
Charlotte Lee Jia Yi (*Old Sally*)
- ★ **Best Dramatic Performance:**
Priscilla Lim (*Bill Sykes*)
- ★ **Best Musician:**
Danial Razak
- ★ **Best Dancer:**
Joey Chee (*Fagin's orphan*)
- ★ **Best Performance in a Choreographed Routine:**
Lee Jye Yi (*Fagin's orphan*)
- ★ **Best Supporting Actress:**
Germaine Soo Jen Ning (*Charlie*)
- ★ **Best Supporting Actor:**
Louis Norman-Jones (*Artful Dodger*)
- ★ **Best Choral Performance:**
Yuriko Kung (*Fagin's orphan*)
- ★ **Best Improvement in a Performance:**
Caitlin Tan (*Mrs Sowerberry*)
- ★ **Best Musical Performance:**
Shawn Phun (*Oliver Twist*)
- ★ **Best Backstage Crew:**
Aishyaani Thevamanohar
- ★ **Best Technical Crew:**
Brian Chang Yee Ming
- ★ **Most Improved Performance & Growth in a Role:**
Chloe Sim (*Widow Corney*)
- ★ **Best Assistant Director:**
Mark Teoh Yun-Wei
- ★ **Best Newcomer Award:**
Mark Jones (*Mr Bumble*)





MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

March 4–7

My NISPMUNC Experience

On Friday, March 4, over a 3-day period, 17 HIS students from Years 8-10 were invited to act as delegates of their respective countries at a prestigious Model United Nations conference at Nexus International School, Putrajaya. As delegate of Cambodia, and with NISPMUNC 2016 being my inaugural conference, adjusting to the professionalism that MUN adhered to was a slight surprise. However by the second day, my fellow (also first time) delegates in the Human Rights Council were debating foreign policies and moral obligations just as confidently as our more experienced compatriots.

The conference itself, appropriately titled “The Conversation”, truly encapsulated the true nature of MUN: from the aesthetics, passion and morals, to the intellect, wit and pure ferocity displayed by students, fighting for their country’s stance for a better tomorrow. I urge students reading to join the upcoming MUN events. It will expand your knowledge on current affairs in the world and help to build up your confidence in public speaking. Moreover, you will meet many other youths from other schools and develop a network of new friends.

NISPMUNC was truly an unforgettable event for me. As one MUN ends, another must begin, so you’ll be hearing from us soon about upcoming conferences taking place.

Until then,

Arjuna Ganesan Tharmalingam (Year 10)



Congratulations to our very own Leanne Yule (4th from left, Year 10), who was awarded ‘Best Delegate’, acting as a China delegate in the Human Rights Council.





AUTISM AWARENESS ASSEMBLY

March 24

Our Autism Awareness Assembly was informative and as usual all of our students and staff demonstrated enthusiasm by dressing up in blue in honour for World Autism Day on April 2.

EAP (Early Autism Project Malaysia) gave an interesting presentation highlighting what autism is, how we can help to support our friends who have autism, and by having a teacher and student simulation activity. A teacher and four students volunteered to attempt an activity, where the instructions for the activity were delivered in a number of foreign languages unknown to the volunteers. The message of this simulation activity was that we all see/hear/feel things differently and that with support, strategies and understudying we can all learn with each other and from each other.



“It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognise, accept, and celebrate those differences.”

~ Audre Lorde



ONCE UPON A MIAO

March 4



Author, Jian Goh, at a book-signing session at HIS



YEAR 9 & 10 DANCE PARTY

February 18



“On with the dance! Let joy be unconfined.”

~ Lord Byron

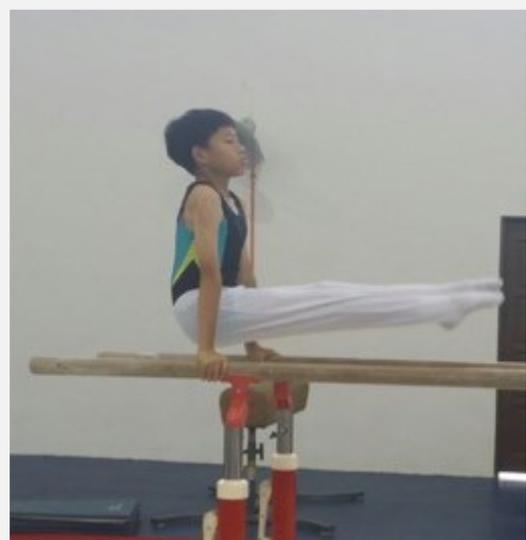
猴

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

February 19



STUDENT CORNER



Lee Kai Heng (Year 6)
MSSS Artistic Gymnastics
 February 2016

- Won 2 bronze medals
- Ranked 4th in the U12 Boys individual category
- Won group gold medal (Petaling Perdana district)

Kai Heng will be representing Selangor in the national level (MSSM) competitions in March 2016.

Goh Jit Wern (Year 3)
MSSD Rhythmic Gymnastics
 February 1, 2016

- Won 4 bronze medals
- Placed 4th overall in her category

MSSS Rhythmic Gymnastics
 February 23, 2016

- Won 2 gold and 1 bronze medals
- Placed 3rd overall in her category

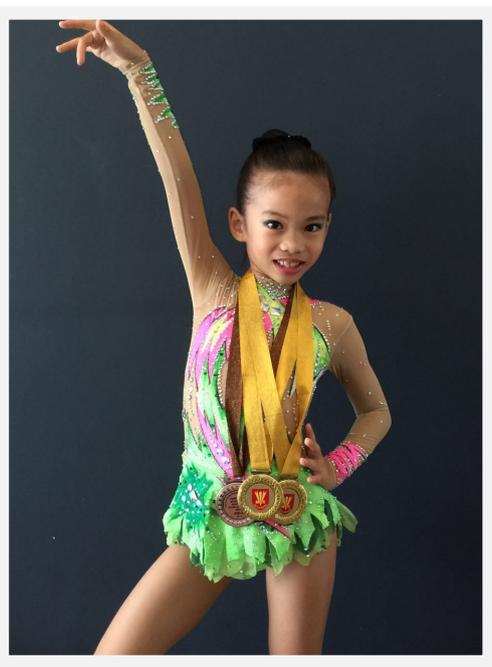


Katerina Lee Jia Jing (Year 5)
MSSD Rhythmic Gymnastics
 February 1, 2016

- Placed 3rd in Ribbon
- Placed 4th in Clubs
- Placed 4th in Ball
- Placed 3rd overall in her category

MSSS Rhythmic Gymnastics
 February 23, 2016

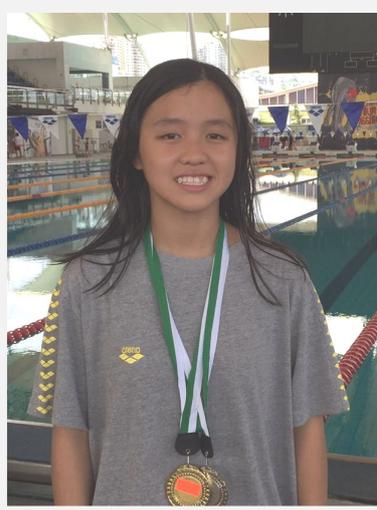
- Placed 4th in Clubs
- Placed 4th in Ribbons
- Placed 1st overall in her category





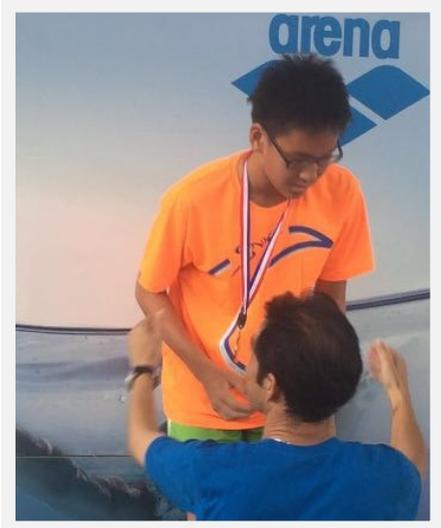
Linus Theo Dengah (Year 8)
**PraKL Age Group Swimming
 Championship 2016**
 January 30—February 1

- 50m breaststroke — bronze



Alyssa Yong Qi Yun (Year 7)
**PraKL Age Group Swimming
 Championship 2016**
 January 30—February 1

- 4x 100m freestyle relay — silver



Hong Chee Chuan (Year 7)
**26th PRAS Junior Swimming
 Championship 2016**
 January 28—31

- Boys 11-12 yrs, novice
- 100m freestyle — gold
 - 200m freestyle — bronze
 - 200m IM — bronze
 - 4x100m boys freestyle relay — gold
 - 4x100m mixed freestyle relay — silver
 - 4x100m mixed medley relay — bronze



Jerriel Lau (Year 9)
**26th PRAS Junior Swimming
 Championship 2016**
 January 28—31

- Girls 13-14 yrs, novice
- 400m freestyle — gold
 - 50m freestyle — silver
 - 200m freestyle — silver
 - 800m freestyle — silver
 - 100m freestyle — silver
 - 200m IM — bronze
 - 4x100m medley relay — silver
 - 4x100m freestyle relay — silver



Chia Vern Kye (Year 10)
**26th PRAS Junior
 Swimming Championship
 2016**
 January 28—31

- Boys 15-17 yrs, novice
- 200 butterfly — gold
 - 100 butterfly — silver
 - 400 freestyle — bronze
 - 100 freestyle — bronze

SHARING BY JOSHUA SUSAI NATHEN

In the summer after my graduation from HIS, I prepared for and competed in the 4th Bali International Choir Festival as a member of The Singaholics Youth Choir. It was an incredible experience travelling to picturesque Bali and witnessing the performances of choirs from all over Southeast Asia. Our choir achieved a Gold IV award in the preliminary round and proceeded to achieve a Gold award in the championship round. We couldn't have asked for better results. For me, it was the perfect ending to the summer before the beginning of my tertiary education.

Shortly after, I travelled to the United States where I am currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). It was unsettling at first to be in a school of 30,000 students when my A-Levels graduating class had only 8 students. But because of its large size, the student body here is extremely diverse and I am glad to have already met so many students with different cultural and societal backgrounds. Furthermore, classes here have been challenging. I am so grateful for the strong foundations in mathematics, physics, and chemistry that I developed at HIS while preparing for my A-Levels examinations. Because of this, I have been able to handle the college-level curriculum while still being active outside of the classroom.

Speaking of being active outside the classroom, there are many extra-curricular activities available to students of all interests here at UCLA. Of course, I immediately joined the UCLA Chorale and Chamber Singers to satisfy my love for singing. Aside from that, I also joined the American Society of Civil Engineers (UCLA Chapter) to have a head start on my exposure to structural engineering through the Steel Bridge project. My most novel experience, however, was joining Foundations Choreography – a hip-hop dance organisation for beginners based at UCLA. Through Foundations, I got to pursue my interest in dance which I couldn't pursue properly before. All of these activities have taught me many things not available to me within the confines of the classroom and have also provided a welcome relief from the stresses of studying.



Joshua with the UCLA Bruin Bear, the school's mascot



Joshua (3rd from left, front row) with The Singaholics Youth Choir in Bali

While I have only just begun my journey here at UCLA, the road ahead promises many new and exciting opportunities and experiences. As a HIS graduate, I will definitely continue to celebrate life in all its fullness in everything I do!

All the best to my fellow ex-classmates as well as the current students of HIS!

