

# Newsletter

HELP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Issue: 2019 / December



## Merry Christmas



### A-LEVEL: BEYOND ACADEMICS

Find out what our A-Level Programme offers beyond the academics. Hear from students of how they have benefited.



### COMPUTER SCIENCE WEEK

Explore the many paths computer science have taken students and shown a way for future careers!



### LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Catch a glimpse at all that had happened this half term - from sports days, swim galas and in-school celebrations.



Cover:  
*Mr Martin with our Preschoolers.*

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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

MR MARTIN VAN RIJSWIJK



My first term at HELP International school has been a thoroughly enjoyable learning journey, fast-paced, with lots of reflection over where we are currently at as a school, and steadily galvanising ideas as to where we should be heading as we chart our way forward as a learning community. I have enjoyed the opportunity to consult with students, staff, and a good number of parents as part of this review process. What has become abundantly clear is the depth of pride in our school, and a solid support for its stated values and aims.

All stakeholders have expressed a commitment to the vibrant, holistic educational journey that the school provides; albeit one rightly underpinned by ambitious academic standards, as well as excellence on the sports field and on the stage. What has also become clear is the need to further explore ways in which we can equip our young people in the fields of science, technology, design and innovation to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving future. Financial literacy and entrepreneurship have also been a constant theme in the consultation process, as has been the need to instil 21<sup>st</sup> century skills of creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication.



*(L - R) Mr Martin, Ms Pei Shee, Ms Lim Meng Hong from international auction house Christie's Malaysia, and our teachers from Design Arts Dept (Ms Gurpreet, Ms Jessica and Mr Keith) at the 'Art for All' public exhibition and auction held at HIS.*

We have enjoyed some enviable successes during this first term. My congratulations to Nicole, Ru Wei, Adri Agni and Nik Iman Irdina who achieved top marks in the World or in Asia in their IGCSE / A-Level exams. This is the fourth year in a row where HIS students have achieved this remarkable feat. Once again, our team competing at the World Scholar's Cup at Yale University in the United States performed with distinction. Our students also achieved the honour of winning the top two awards at the ECO-School Kids-for-Kids for local and international schools in Malaysia, reflecting the school's deep commitment to environmental education.

Continued success has also been found on the sports field this term. Our team returned victorious from the very prestigious FOBISIA Games in Phuket, where HIS swim, athletics, basketball and football teams were a dominant force in their respective competitions. As part of our community service initiatives, we were honoured to host the "Art for All" public exhibition and auction alongside the Rotary Club of Utara Subang Jaya (USJ) that raised RM70,000 for *WeCareJourney* and their work with Spinal Muscular Dystrophy patients. Our students have also been actively taking a lead in supporting the Dignity for Children Foundation for refugees and marginalised children, by raising awareness and donations of RM10,000 to help Dignity students stay in school in 2020.

Our search for a new Head of Secondary School proved to be particularly successful. We have appointed Mr Clive Keevil, a very experienced school leader who has led and opened schools and Sixth Form colleges across Asia, Australia, the United States and the Middle East. Mr Keevil will join our team in April and will enjoy an extended handover with Mr Mark Jones, our current Head of Secondary. I would also like to congratulate Dr Felicia Paulraj, has been appointed to the Assistant Principal from amongst a very competitive field of candidates. This appointment is effective, August 2020.

I would like to invite parents to participate in the next phase of our consultation process as we draft a new strategic plan for the school. Please sign up for the parent focus group meeting which is scheduled to take place on Thursday, January 16. Mr Clive Keevil, the incoming Head of Secondary will be in attendance at this meeting, so it will be a good chance for parents to get to meet him.

In the meantime, I would like to thank everyone for providing me with such a warm welcome this term to HELP International School. I wish everyone a safe, enjoyable and very relaxing holiday break.

Mr Martin Van Rijswijk  
Principal



*Mr Martin and Mr Mark with Nik Iman Irdina, Nicole and Ru Wei, recipients of the 2018/19 Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards.*



*Mr Martin and Mr Mark with Nicole and Adri Agni, winners of the OxfordAQA 2019 Go Further Awards. With them is Mr Caine Browne Chan, Qualifications Consultant, South East Asia for Oxford International AQA Examinations.*

### **FOCUS GROUP UPDATE / MEET-&-GREET MR CLIVE KEEVIL**

**Date:** Thursday, January 16, 2020

**Time:** 8:45am - 10:20am

**Venue:** Training Room, Level 3

Please sign up here:

<http://bit.ly/>

[HIS ParentWorkshops 2019 2020](#)

# A-LEVEL BEYOND ACADEMICS

by Aletheia Goh and Calvin Lim

Year 12 HIS Marketing and Communications Department Interns

The A-Levels (Advanced Levels) is an internationally acclaimed and academically intensive college program offered to high school graduates. However, in this day and age, universities are looking beyond the straight A\*s. Due to the ever increasing number of academic achievers, extracurricular activities share equal importance with standard academic achievements in the university acceptance process.

The HIS Asian Scholars A-Level Leadership Programme recognises the need for students to stand out and seeks to develop well-rounded leaders by introducing activities beyond academics for students to gain a diverse range of knowledge, experiences and qualities. Detailed below are just some of the programmes offered within our HIS Asian Scholar A-Level Leadership Programme.

## Project Purpose

We give students the opportunity to develop an authentic leadership experience in addressing issues that matter; including climate crisis, mental health, and youth employment; through effective and efficient project design and management - within and beyond the school with an emphasis on social entrepreneurship.

**Jerome Bun, Year 12, CEO of Meal Ticket Malaysia, shares with us about his project.**

### What is your project about?

“Meal Ticket Malaysia is a volunteer group that organizes food runs and gathers donations to feed the homeless. Our goal is to create something that is simple and easy for the public to get involved in.”

### What challenges did you encounter when starting this project?

“In all honesty, there was an initial fear in just overthinking what the experience would be like, including how the homeless would react. But all those fears dissipated during our food runs when we actually saw how misunderstood the homeless people are. It was at that point that I learned that charities like ours are only useful when we are at our bravest.”



### What is your next step in your journey to achieve your goal as a youth NGO?

“The immediate goal is our next food run on February 8, 2020. Anyone above the age of 16 can sign up through the link in the @mealticketmalaysia Instagram page. But the most ambitious goal would be the M.A.D. Youth Summit next year (February 15, 2020). The Summit is offering RM5,000 to any group that can prove their idea can make a difference in this world. You can bet your bottom dollar that Meal Ticket Malaysia will be there to throw their name in ring.”

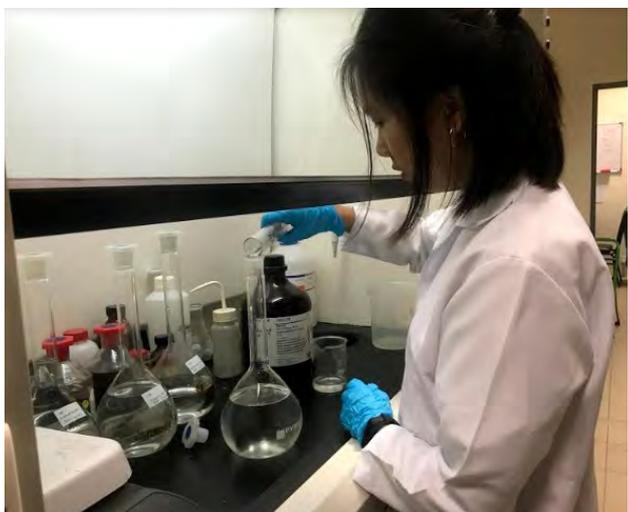
## Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (DOE)

Students are given the opportunity to develop skills and attitudes they need to become well-balanced and perceptive individuals. Students are placed in situations that test and further cultivate their skill of choice, their leadership qualities, their proficiency in communication, their problem solving skills, as well as their ability to organise and utilise time effectively. The Award is comprised of three levels (Bronze, Silver, Gold) and four sections (Skill, Physical Recreation, Service, and Adventurous Journey). Participants complete all four sections at each level in order to achieve their Award. At Gold level, participants also complete a Residential Project.

“When I first started doing my service, it was a hassle and a chore, but my experience with Malaysia Association of the Blind changed my perspective on life and the world we live in. After volunteering for months now, I feel that I have found some purpose there. The entire journey of going through the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award helps individuals discover their true value in the world and I have found mine in helping those in need in our nation,” said William Ting, Year 13, DOE Silver Award.



The biggest part of DOE is definitely the Adventurous Journey, which is also known as the Expedition. Students spend months preparing and learning survival skills to prepare for the journey, including learning how to cook outdoors, setting up a tent and providing first aid. They will also undertake a practice journey which will provide them with a taste of the actual expedition.



## In-House Internships

There is nothing more valuable than the opportunity to obtain valuable work experience and explore different career paths. In-house internships at school provide a safe and familiar environment. Expert mentors in their respective fields will guide students and teach them how to apply their skills and education in a real-life work setting.

**Loh Nicole, Year 13, a Marketing and Communications Department Intern (2018 - 2019) shares how this works at HIS.**

**What did you do on a weekly basis at your internship?**

“My internship has taught me more than I could have imagined. As a MarCom Intern, I felt my duties were diverse and ever-changing. I was assigned with tasks that tested my communication and delegation skills, like calling parents to inform them about upcoming events and writing articles for school communications.”

**What was your motivation to join in the first place?**

“Growing up with parents who are heavily business-oriented, I wanted to learn and understand the inner functioning of any sectors in business. I was drawn by the level of commitment and strategic decision making in the Marketing Department at HIS, who has managed to attract an overwhelming number of customers yearly.”

*At HIS, students may apply to intern in the following departments - Marketing, Admin, Library, Science, and EdTech*

### What challenges did you encounter during your internship?

"The challenge was trying to adapt to the level of professionalism in the office. This being my first position in an office atmosphere, I didn't know exactly what to expect. The environment here is quite informal, yet it taught me how to behave in the workplace. Simply working in the office and getting used to everything here has definitely prepared me for whatever my next position may be. Just observing the everyday events has taught me more about teamwork, and how people can come together to get things done."

### What career do you hope to pursue in the future?

"With my experiences gained from this internship paired with my extracurricular, I would like to venture into Economics or Public Policy. As mentioned above, I think this opportunity has taught me soft skills that will be beneficial as I explore the corporate world in the future."

## International Project Qualification (IPQ)

We give students the opportunity to mature their research skills and develop higher-order thinking skills including university standard analysis and evaluation, by carrying out research into a topic of their choice. Taking Cambridge IPQ allows learners to demonstrate engagement with their chosen topic beyond textbooks and exams.

### **Teh Nian Yii, a Year 13 student who is working on her paper "Will Artificial Intelligence become beneficial our society?"**

"Taking IPQ has been a a new and challenging experience. Although my teachers provide helpful guidance and support through the process to point in the right direction, IPQ is designed to be self-driven. It has therefore pushed me to take more initiative and develop skills such as time management, effective note-taking and analysis. Through it, I have explored topics beyond the standard curriculum, giving me a clearer idea of what i would like to pursue in my tertiary education. The knowledge I picked up while researching for my project was also helpful in supporting my university applications, programmes such as IPQ are truly what makes my A-Level life in HIS unique and enriching."

## Personal Statements

"Applying to universities in the UK requires us to write a 4000-character long personal statement. We have to talk about our achievements and why we deserve to be accepted by our university of choice. Initially it was a harrowing process due to the massive amount of things to put in within such a small limit of time. Luckily our A-Level teachers constantly provided us with support and advice, they helped me pick out points that were unnecessary and add in more attractive sentences to my statement. My personal statement is now one of the most important things for my future, and I'm glad I was able to produce one that I'm proud of."

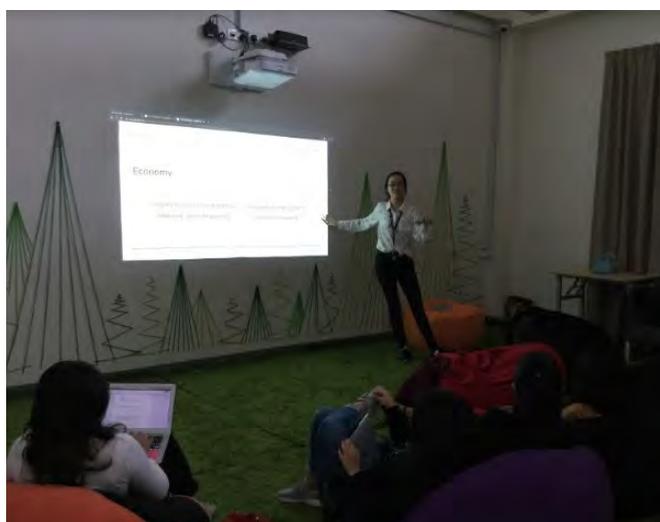
~ So Zhao-Qi, Year 13

"As application deadlines into medical schools were nearing, I could not be more thankful to the A-level team of teachers for being so accessible in spite of their extremely hectic schedules. It was reassuring to know that I could always clear any doubts. The guidance from day one up until sending my application off has really saved me a lot of time as I was given advice on each step of the way, steering me in the right direction."

~ Chong Min Ki, Year 13

"I started writing over the summer in July 2019 and is still ongoing. The teachers have been really helpful, guiding me when it comes to the personal statement. They have given me a lot of great tips and feedback on solidifying my theme and narrative of my essay - perspectives, the writing structure and sometimes even the direction that I am about to pursue into. I am so grateful for the assistance of the A-Level team has provided and I truly appreciate the time they make for me and each and every student, helping us get into the university that we dream of. It would have been impossible without them."

~ Choong Ai Wei, Year 13

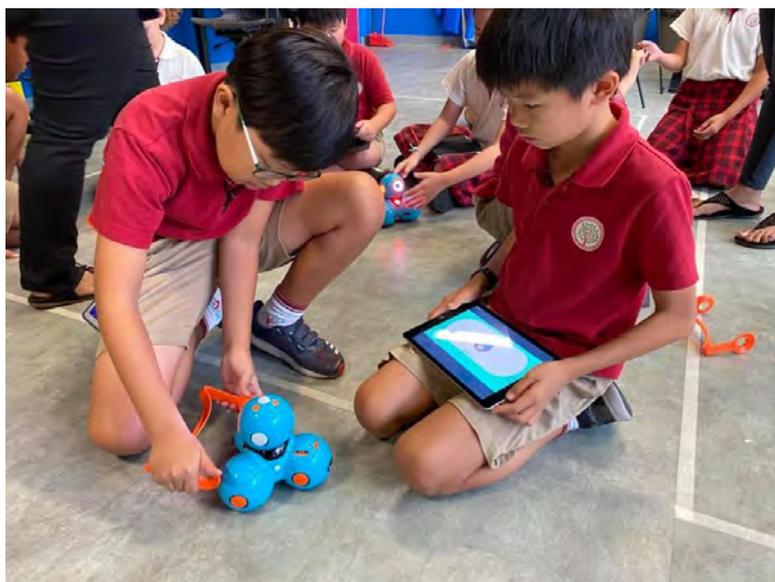


*Nian Yii presenting to her peers about her IPQ topic and the process leading up to the research.*

# COMPUTER SCIENCE WEEK

December 9-18

It has been a week filled with many exciting activities related to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). These fun and educational activities allow the students to explore the many paths computer science can take them, and we hope spark an interest that pave a way for future careers!



## Preschool

To tie in with their IEYC unit, Weather Wonders, preschool students were introduced to the basics of computational thinking and giving commands by helping santa deliver his or her presents to the right type of weather. Everyone had a lot of fun working on their cooperation and communication skills while practising giving instructions.

## Year 1

The Year 1 students have been learning how to build programmable models with a variety of sensors including movement, light and sound using Lego WeDo kits. Their enquiry skills were put to the test as they created models such as glowing snails and working fans.



## Year 2

Year 2 are currently learning all about water pollution as part of their IPC topic, Water World. Their challenge during Computer Science Education Week was to clean up a polluted ocean in our MakerSpace. After using the cardboard Makedo kits to make a scooper attachment for Dash, students demonstrated excellent resilience when programming their robots to remove all the unwanted rubbish and improving life for all the living things in the ocean.

## Years 3 and 4

With Christmas just around the corner, we challenged our Year 3 and 4 students to create coded Christmas art using Dash. By attaching a board marker to their robots, students were able to program Dash to draw shapes such as triangles and circles in order to form Christmas trees, stars and snowmen. With the help of plenty of paint, glitter and cotton wool to decorate their pictures afterwards, these will now be displayed as part of this year's Christmas assembly.

## Year 5

For this year's Computer Science Education Week, the Year 5s have been busy piloting rovers on Mars as part of their IPC topic, Mission to Mars. With the help of the Dash robots and the Doink Green Screen app, students displayed some excellent cooperation skills to make videos as they programed their rovers to collect rock samples, simulating the job of scientists here on Earth who are controlling the Mars rover, Curiosity.

## Year 6

Our Year 6 students got into the festive spirit during Computer Science Education Week by coding their very own Christmas greeting cards using Scratch. This was many of the students first time using this coding app but they showed great resilience by picking up the skills to make some excellent products.

## Year 7s

Students were tasked with helping the citizens of Ovum City by interacting with real computer programming concepts like debugging, code syntax, variables, functions, loops, and more!

## Secondary

Students got to use new Apple resources along with Hour of Code during their ICT and Computing lessons.



**“Whether you want to uncover the secrets of the universe, or you just want to pursue a career in the 21st century, basic computer programming is an essential skill to learn.”**

*~ Stephen Hawking, Theoretical Physicist, Cosmologist, Author*

# OPTIONS YEARS 9 & 11 November 11 EVENING

Our Options Evening is held annually to provide our Year 9 and Year 11 students the opportunity to explore the various subject choices available to them at HIS. Students and their parents attended talks to understand more about IGCSE and A-Level, visit subject booths where they spoke with teachers and students to learn more about what each subject entails and its career prospects.



# CAREER TALKS



November 5

As part of Careers Week @ HIS, we welcome a host of internal and external speakers to talk on various topics to our senior students.

It was an empowering time as they got to listen to sharings from a variety of speakers who brought a wealth of knowledge and experience with them.

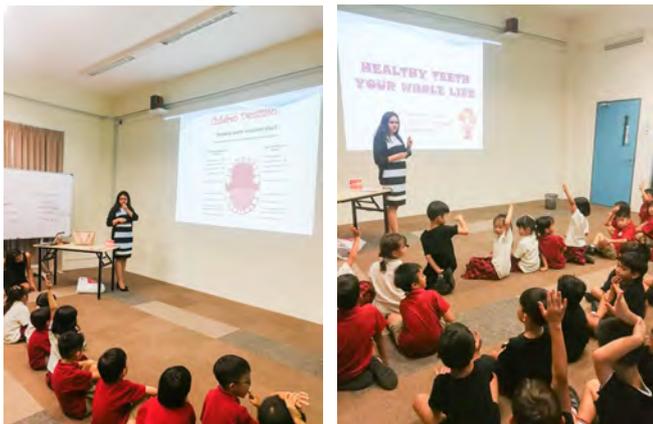
- 'The Art of Visual Storytelling - a career in photography and cinematic films' by Ms Grace Tan
- 'Serving with a Non-Profit Organisation' by Ms Philippa Yoong
- 'Starting Your Own Business at 18 years old' by Mr Alex Shiew
- 'Turning your Passion into Business that Helps Others Realised Their Dream as a Wedding Planner' by Ms Priscilla Lim
- 'The Art of Training Others' by Ms Prianka Sedov
- 'Outlining Diagnostic Images' by Associate Professor Dr Raja Rizal
- 'Media Production, Furniture Design and Robotics Accessories' by Mr Jamie Speakman
- 'Artificial Intelligence and Computing' by Nabeel Mungaye



# LEARNING & EXPLORING

## Preschool: IEYC 'Once Upon a Time'

Students dressed as their favourite fairy tale character and used their STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills to design a house that can't be blown down, construct a bridge that keeps 3 goats safe from the troll and build a chair even Goldilocks can't break!



## Year 1: IPC 'How Are You?'

In relation to their IPC unit - 'How Are You?' for Science Task 7, Dr Veronica Louis come visit to talk to the them about dental health and how to take care of their teeth.

## Year 2: IPC 'The Earth Our Home'

As part of this unit of work, the Year 2s found out about the rainforests here in Malaysia and the wonderful diversity of plants and animals that we have.

With a special focus on sun bears, the students managed to speak via Skype with Dr. Wong, the CEO of the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre in Sandakan, Sabah. Dr Wong answered all their questions and showed bears at the centre roaming and playing in the jungle. This Skype session was an amazing way to the bring the sun bears into our classroom!

The students wanted to do more and decided to open a shop to sell ornaments, recycled pencil pots, decorated plant pots and greetings cards. The aim of our shop was to raise awareness about the plight of sun bears and teach the rest of the school about them, but to also raise enough money to adopt one of the sun bears housed at the BSBCC.



### Certificate of Adoption

This certificate is awarded to  
**Year 2 Students at HELP International School**  
 in recognition of adopting  
**Romolina**  
 of Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre  
 from **02<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 to 01<sup>st</sup> December 2020**  
 Thank you for taking a sun bear into your heart.  
 Romolina arrived BSBCC in July 2018. During arrival, she was tiny and malnourished. Now she happily exploring the forest and climbing up high trees.




Dr (Hon) Wong Siew Te, D.J.N.  
 CEO and Founder  
 Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre

They exceeded all expectations and sold every single item in the shop! We smashed our initial target and raised over RM1000! This has allowed us to adopt FIVE sun bears from the BSBCC!

Amazing work Year 2s—we are so proud of you!

## Year 4: IPC 'Chocolate'

Year 4s took a Field Trip to Harriston Chocolates to strengthen their knowledge, skills and understanding in their recent IPC unit – 'Chocolate'.

The eager students went on an educational tour of the Harriston Chocolate factory, took part in chocolate tasting and got some hands-on experience making chocolates.



## Years 3 & 5: Mandarin

The Winter Solstice (Dongzhi) Festival falls on December 22 this year.

Our Mandarin teachers organised making glutinous rice balls (汤圆 "Tang Yuan") with Year 1,3 and 5 students. They had lots of fun getting messy, and enjoyed time with one another while learning about this part of the Chinese culture.

## Year 8: IMYC Exit Point

The students were tasked to create a comic book about "Every individual thing affects and is affected by other things."

This is to showcase their learning journey during this unit. Reflective questions were incorporated into the planning of this exit point. The aim of these questions was to empower students to dive deeper into their learning and see if they can make authentic links.



## A-Level

HIS strives to take proactive measures in helping our A-Level students grow and develop in a holistic way. This includes preparing them to navigate real-life challenges that they will face now and in the future.

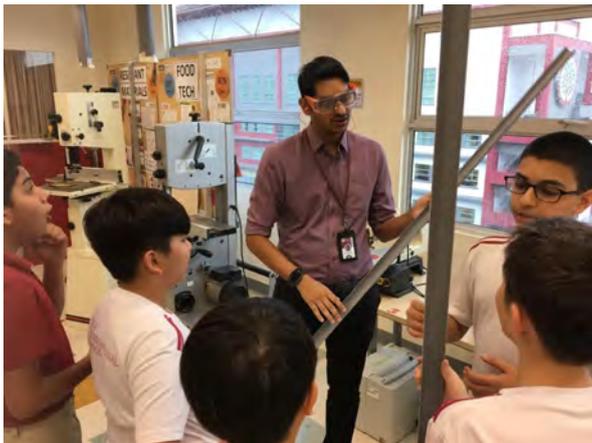
In line with this, we collaborate with our Counselling Team to invite clinical psychologists from HELP University to conduct a talk on Relationships and Intimacy, focusing on the students' psychosocial development, health, well-being as well as addressing any concerns or worries they may have.

Due to the varying needs observed, sessions were held separately for boys and girls.

## Year 11 & A-Level: Art

The Year 11 and A-Level Art students got the privilege of meeting Ms Lim Meng Hong from Christie's Malaysia who facilitated the 'Art for All' event organised by the Rotary Club of USJ at the school in November.

Ms Lim talked to the students, and gave them encouraging feedback about their artwork, and also gave insights into the art industry.



## KS3: STEM CCA

After weeks of collaborative planning and research, our KS3 students have finally begun their practical investigations.

The projects that students have decided to undertake are "Making a roller coaster go faster" and "Making toothpaste". We can see how our students' learning journey extends beyond the classroom as they stayed engaged and motivated to construct their roller coaster tracks from recycled materials and making toothpaste from organic produce.

In the weeks ahead, they will continue to apply their scientific investigation skills before moving on to reflecting and evaluating their projects.

## Year 12: Biology

Year 12 Biology students using tech for good by creating animations to exhibit their understanding of mitosis.



## KS4: Lunch Workshops

For Career Week, our Year 12s and 13s have been conducting Lunch Workshops to the Year 11s.

An interesting one was held yesterday entitled "How does your choice of A level subjects allows you to keep your options open or will help you get the career you would like to do? Why chose HIS? "

Five popular subjects that were covered were Economics, Further Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It was an insightful time of sharing and we are glad to see our seniors in school taking initiatives to invest in the learning journey of their younger peers in school.

# MILEPOST 1

December 3

# SPORTS DAY



# SWIM GALA

## December 6

# Milepost 3

1. Pegasus 179 points
2. Dragon 156 points
3. Phoenix 135 points
4. Griffin 131 points



# SWIM GALA

# Key Stage 4

December 9

- 1. Griffin 3,065 points
- 2. Phoenix 2,695 points
- 3. Pegasus 2,650 points
- 4. Dragon 2,090 points



# INTERNATIONAL & CHILDREN'S DAY

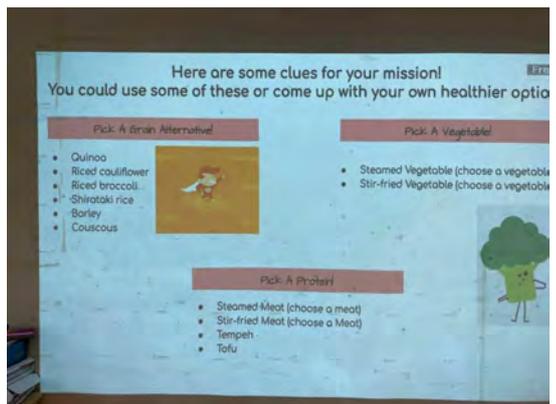
November 13

This year the students continue to celebrate and develop their international mindedness, and our Eco-Schools programme with a particular emphasis on Good Health and Well-Being (UN Sustainable Development Goal #3).

The learning objectives were:

1. Achieve a balanced lifestyle on a daily basis
2. Understand the importance of what we eat and how it affects our well-being
3. Learn to relax and have fun with family and friends

Primary students brought in small indoor plants to create a Green Corner in each of their homerooms, and traditional board games to reconnect with their peers.



*The new goal for worldwide Good Health promotes healthy lifestyles, preventive measures and modern, efficient healthcare for everyone.*



every time we waste, we lose a piece of ourselves

# ECO-SCHOOLS

'Kids for Kids' is a nation-building programme that seeks to raise up a generation of Malaysian Kidpreneurs: the leaders of the future who will strengthen the nation through entrepreneurship, guided by a sense of social responsibility, and motivated by a desire for national unity.

Over two months, our young innovators were brought together and empowered with not only the skills needed to succeed but also given opportunities to bond with other kids of diverse backgrounds.

Endorsed by the Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment & Climate Change (MESTECC), this programme was designed to address three of the most serious global challenges listed by the United Nations:

- **Inequality** - How can we bridge inequality through social integration?
- **Pollution** - How can we help Malaysia to end the use of single-use plastic?
- **Child Exploitation** - How can we protect our children from cyber - predators?

For each issue, a few teams of Kidpreneurs worked to create a solution for their chosen challenges. As a combined team, the HIS and SK Jalan U3 students made the finals with their ideas about Pollution and Child Exploitation, where they presented to a panel of entrepreneurs. They have successfully made it through Phase 1 and they will be moving forward with Phase 2. In Phase 2 (February 2020) they will be working with committed entrepreneurs for each category to further innovate their prototypes with the hope of making their prototypes a reality.



Team Super Kids (consisting of HIS and SK Jalan U3 students) won the Grand Prize, Pollution Category - PROTECTORS OF THE EARTH AWARD



Team Unikeros (consisting of HIS and SK Jalan U3 students) won the Grand Prize, Cyber Grooming Category - DEFENDERS OF THE INNOCENT AWARD



# ANTI-BULLYING & KINDNESS

November 5 & 28

The Day of Kindness saw meaningful activities and teaching lessons on simple acts of kindness and gratitude. Kindness Cookies along with other GOLD merchandise were on sale, generating over RM 6,200 for GOLD Association (Generating Opportunities for Learning Disabled). Parents and teachers were not to be left out, they were able to purchase a 2nd drink at the café for a friend or stranger at 50% in a 'pay it forward' campaign.



As part of the Anti-Bullying Day today, the HIS family came to school in odd socks, to send the message that each individual is important and to be celebrated because of our uniqueness.

'Change Starts With Us'! We can do that by making small, simple changes, and the cycle of bullying can be broken and a safe environment created for everyone. Together, we can challenge bullying. Change starts with a conversation. It starts with checking in. It starts with working together as a community.

The KL Shakespeare Players held an interactive workshop to get students to be open and honest about bullying, and how everyone has the responsibility of keeping bullying at bay; whether it's cyber-bullying, silent-bullying and bullying that happens out of school.



# ART FOR ALL

November 17

Hosted by our school, it was a meaningful and touching 'Art for All' event. There was a lively auction supporting local artists, and a live painting session. Our A-Level art students had their artworks on display too.

The event was to raise money for **WeCareJourney**, a non profit organisation which supports patients and families of SMA (Spinal Muscular Atrophy). It was a joint event by the **Rotary Club of USJ**, **HELP International School** and **WeCareJourney**.

YB Maria Chin came to pledge her support. Ms Lim Meng Hong from Christie's Malaysia was the auctioneer. There were 59 pieces of paintings displayed, with 11 of them up for auction and the rest for sale.

Our very own 24 festive drum put on a rousing performance to kick off the event. We had heartfelt sharing from two families who are affected by SMA, which was very moving and yet hopeful.

A total of more than RM70,000 was raised, and a big part of it will go towards helping families with SMA. We hope the awareness raised will continue to have a ripple effect, and the families will get support and funding for this rare disease. Thank you to all who supported this event.

ORGANISED BY



IN SUPPORT OF



CO-ORGANISED BY



#thinkSMAllactBIG



# CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY





*Season's greetings*



*“Christmas with dignity,  
by giving to Dignity for Children.”*

The Dignity for Children Foundation, a school for the underprivileged Malaysians living in KL as well as refugees, has a vision to nurture and empower underprivileged children to be world changers through transformative education.

**HOW YOUR DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT DIGNITY & ITS STUDENTS**

Dignity's latest fundraising campaign for their 1,640 students is called 'Dignity Bag to School', to enable the children to receive the gift of education - to empower them to get to school, and to bring those that dropped out of school because they cannot afford to pay school fees or got married off, or stopped to go to work - back to school.

Thank you for supporting Dignity - we are pleased to report that donations of RM10,000 has been generously donated by the HIS community, enabling Dignity students to stay in school in 2020.



**ISHAK'S STORY**

Meet Ishak, a young Rohingya student who was forced to drop out of school at the age of 12 due to family financial issues. Thanks to Dignity's intervention and care, Ishak was able to go back to school and obtain straight A's in IGCSE.

Your generous donations go a long way in helping someone like Ishak. Thank you.

Learn more about Ishak's story here.



# CCA highlights

## Chinese Orchestra

Chinese Orchestra has successfully had an overnight camp in school (December 10-11) with 33 students and 4 teachers participating.

The objectives of this camp are to prepare for the upcoming performance and our own Chinese Orchestra Concert (July 3, 2020). In this camp, members had more time to practice in smaller groups to build their confidence and skills in playing. We also had team building to promote teamwork and to encourage members to form social relationships among our members. At the end of the camp, there were about 30 parents who have been invited in our Post-camp mini showcase and we performed 7 songs on that mini showcase.



## Cinematics Club

Since October, nine HIS film-making enthusiasts, along with refugee youths from Myanmar, Somalia and Afghanistan, participated in Project Common Ground. Organised by SUKA Society, this project was a collaboration with HIS Counselling Department and HIS Cinematics Club headed by Ms Dessy and assisted by Ms Ruby. The main aim of this project was to build peace and friendship by discovering and learning commonalities despite coming from vast differences in culture, background and personal stories.

They attended a series of workshops on film production with well-known Malaysian professionals such as Jon Tham, a self-taught caricature artist, and Derrik Yaw, director and producer in Graph Studio. Our students brainstormed ideas to produce a short film under the guidance of these filmmakers. It has been such a wonderful journey and life-changing experience for our students!

## Mad Science Club

HELP International School hosted Straits International School's STEM Club recently. Both clubs are developing hydraulic cranes, so the students from both schools competed in a friendly weightlifting competition. The winning cranes lifted around 800g, but most impressive was how the students discovered the weak points in their cranes and cooperated to fix them.

It was wonderful to see them helping and interacting with each other. This is what joy in learning is all about!



# PARENT events



Parents are always welcome at HIS.

This half-term parents attended French & Spanish taster classes during European Languages Day, they came to support and learn more with their children during Options Evening, showed their philanthropic side to support the 'Art for All' event hosted in school, and more importantly, they never ceased to be their child's #1 cheerleader - attending performances, Sports Days and Parent-Teacher Meetings.



# PARENT workshops

DATE & TIME	TOPIC
Monday, Jan 13 8:30am - 10:00am MakerSpace, L1	<b>ECO-SCHOOLS WORKSHOP: SOAP MAKING WITH USED COOKING OIL</b> Open to all ~ Ms Charmaine Lim, Head of Mandarin & the Eco-Schools Team
Tuesday, Jan 14 8:30am - 9:30am BM Room 1, L3	<b>IGCSE BAHASA MALAYSIA - UNDERSTANDING PAPER 3 (SPEAKING TEST)</b> Open to Years 9 & 11 parents (limited to 20 pax) ~ Ms Dessy Jamaluddin, Head of Bahasa Malaysia (Accredited Cambridge Trainer)
Thursday, Jan 16 8:45am - 10:20am Training Room, L3	<b>FOCUS GROUP UPDATE / MEET-&amp;-GREET WITH MR CLIVE KEEVIL</b> Open to all ~ Mr Martin Van Rijswijk, Principal with Mr Clive Keevil, Incoming Deputy Principal/Head of Secondary (2020/2021)
Tuesday, Feb 4 8:30am - 9:30am BM Room 1, L3	<b>IGCSE BAHASA MALAYSIA - UNDERSTANDING PAPER 2 (READING)</b> Open to Years 9 & 11 parents (limited to 20 pax) ~ Ms Dessy Jamaluddin, Head of Bahasa Malaysia (Accredited Cambridge Trainer) & Ms Vanitha Jayabalan, Secondary BM Teacher
Thursday, Feb 13 9:00am - 10:30am Training Room, L3	<b>TECH FOR GOOD: FROM DISTRACTION TO CONNECTION</b> In conjunction with the Malaysia International Schools Parents Support Group (MISPSG) Open to all ~ Dr D Gerard Louis, CEO, HELP Education Services (HES) & Mr Mr Jamie Speakman, Learning Innovation Coordinator
Friday, Feb 21 10:00am - 11:30am Training Room, L3	<b>IGCSE MATHEMATICS - UNDERSTANDING PAPER 2 &amp; PAPER 4</b> Open to Year 10 parents Ms Siti Zaleha, Secondary Maths Teacher/ Accredited Cambridge Trainer
Tuesday, Mar 17 8:30am - 9:30am BM Room 1, L3	<b>IGCSE BAHASA MALAYSIA - UNDERSTANDING PAPER 4 (WRITING)</b> Open to Years 9 & 11 parents (limited to 20 pax) ~ Ms Dessy Jamaluddin, Head of Bahasa Malaysia (Accredited Cambridge Trainer) & Ms Rabi'atul Abdul Razak, Secondary BM Teacher
Thursday, Mar 19 8:45am - 10:20am Training Room, L3	<b>BUILDING STRONGER READERS WITH BETTER COMPREHENSION SKILLS</b> Open to Primary parents ~ Dr Alison Davis Dr Davis has a MA Educational Administration (1st class hon) and a Doctorate in Literacy Education. She is the author of 9 teaching resources for teachers, several of which we are using at HELP International School. Dr Davis has worked in the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Singapore, Japan, Manila, Abu Dhabi and Egypt and has presented key note addresses and symposiums at a large number of international conferences. Dr Alison is currently assisting with CPD for our teachers.

Sign-Up for the Parent Workshops here:

[http://bit.ly/HIS\\_ParentWorkshops\\_2019\\_2020](http://bit.ly/HIS_ParentWorkshops_2019_2020)

# STUDENT corner



**Cassidy Tan Jia Xin (Y4)**

**2019 LEAP CHALLENGE CUP**  
*October 31, Seoul*

- ★ 1st Place - Free Hand Pre-Junior (Under 8) Category
- ★ 2nd Place - Rope Pre-Junior (Under 9) Category
- ★ 6th Place - Hoop Pre-Junior (Under 9) Category



**Keaira Lee (Y9)**

**Child Rights Festival 2019**  
*November 23, Kuching*

Keaira donated two art pieces, titled 'Shut Up' and 'Listen (Only To Me)', to raise funds for CRIB Foundation, an NGO that aims to improve child protection and child rights in Malaysia.

As part of the Child Play - Prodigy Art Sale, her artwork which centred on the theme of Child Rights, sold for RM300 each.



**Danielle Marissa Goh (Y6)**

**PESTA GIMNASTIK 2019**  
*November 3, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Gym For Life Challenge - Gold

**NASIONAL SIRKIT REMAJA SIRI 2**  
**2019**

*November 25, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: Under 10

- ★ Hoop - Gold
- ★ Ball - Gold
- ★ Rope - Silver
- ★ Individual All-Around - Gold
- ★ Team - Gold

**REA 5TH GRADING CUM**  
**COMPETITION 2019**

*December 13, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: Under 10

- ★ Hoop - 1st Runner Up
- ★ Ball - 1st Runner Up
- ★ Clubs - 2nd Runner Up
- ★ Rope - 4th



**Alexandria Cheah (Y5)**

**PESTA GIMNASTIK 2019**  
*November 3, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ 1st place in Group Exercise U10



**Yap Ji Wen (Y6)**

**PESTA GIMNASTIK 2019**  
*November 3, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Gym For Life Challenge: Gold
- ★ Group Exercise U12 - 5 Rope: Silver

**NATIONAL CIRCUIT RHYTHMIC**  
**GYMNASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**2/2019**

*November 26, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: Under 11

- ★ Rope - Silver
- ★ Ball - Silver
- ★ Clubs - Silver
- ★ Individual All-Around - Silver
- ★ Team - Gold

**REA 5TH GRADING CUM**  
**COMPETITION 2019**

*December 12, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: Under 11

- ★ Clubs - Silver
- ★ Ribbon - Silver
- ★ Ball - Bronze
- ★ Rope - Bronze



**Damon Geon Hwi Park (Y3)**  
**Juwon Kim (Y4)**

**AIRASIA KL JUNIOR LEAGUE 2019**  
*November 17, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ U8 Team Champions



**Marcus Lee Wei Zhen (Y10)**

**10TH TM (WTF)-NSC-MILO  
NATIONAL REMAJA TAEKWONDO  
CHAMPIONSHIP 2019**

*October 18, Kuching*

Poomsae, 15-17 Years Old

- ★ Male Team - Silver
- ★ Mixed Pair - Bronze



**Liew Zi Xuan (Y5)**

**PESTA GIMNASTIK 2019**

*November 3, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Gym For Life Challenge: Gold

**NATIONAL CIRCUIT RHYTHMIC  
GYMNASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP  
2/2019**

*November 25, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: Under 10

- ★ Team - Gold
- ★ Rope - Gold
- ★ Ball - Silver
- ★ Hoop - 5th Place
- ★ Individual All-Around - Silver



**Amos Tan Hung Yu (Y8)**

**GBWC 2019**

*November 12, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ 2nd place nationally



**Tee Ning Marn, Claire (Y4)**

**SEAMO 2019 (SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD)**

*September 7, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Silver medal (Eligible to go to Australia Gold Coast for SEAMO X)

**AMO (AMERICAN MATHEMATICS  
OLYMPIAD)**

*October 22, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Gold medal



**Ethan Dunn (Y10)**

**Shern Hong (Y10)**

**Russell Lim (Y10)**

**Tristan Paul (Y10)**

**BANGKOK INTERNATIONAL  
FOOTBALL SUPERCUP 2019**

*November 23-24, Bangkok*

- ★ Silver medallists, Cup runners up in the U15 football category



**Hans Lim Sheng Tze (Y7)**

**SYMPHONIA FANTASIA CONCERT  
2019 IN AID FOR THE SPCA**

*November 17, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Played the 2nd violin in the orchestra together with Tun Siti Hasmah, The First Lady of Malaysia.



**Tan Yu Shen (Y7)**

**INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION &  
ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS,  
UNSW - AUST)**

*July 30, Kuala Lumpur*

- ★ Gold medal and perfect score

## WORLD SCHOLAR'S CUP: TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

November 8-13

Congratulations to all students who went to the Tournament of Champions at Yale University in November. The overall medal count for the HIS delegation is 87 silver medals, 44 gold medals.

Here are the results further been broken down by team.

**Team #662** - Ong Shi Yuan, Phua Ming-Han, Lim Yi-Qian - 17 silver medals, 8 gold medals

**Team #663** - Chew Yu Xuan, Gun Woo Kim, Lim Jing Ren - 11 silver medals, 6 gold medals.

**Seniors subtotal: 28 silver medals, 14 gold medals**

**Team #412** - Ethan Tan, Howard Lim, Ryan Lim - 10 silver medals

**Team #413** - Shazrai Ediaz Shazrul, Amos Tan, Cayden Phillip Lim - 15 silver medals, 4 gold medals.

\* Well done Shazrai for achieving 199th place overall in the Junior division!

**Team #414** - Vigneshvar Shanmuganathan, Aidan Kow, Dylan Chew - 17 silver medals, 9 gold medals.

\* Well done Dylan for achieving 6 gold medals in Scholar's Challenge, and 136rd place overall in the Junior division!

**Team #415** - Choe Xin Yen, Elena Foong, Kieve Cheong - 8 silver medals, 10 gold medals.

\* Well done Elena for achieving 105th place overall in the Junior division!

\* Well done team for scoring a team trophy for 15th place in Collaborative Writing!

**Team #416** - Sriya Sura Venkata, Ryan Hoo, Chang Kai Rong - 2 silver medals, 5 gold medals.

**Team #417** - Kate Tee, Andrea Wong, Kok Xuen Lin - 7 silver medals, 2 gold medals.

\* Well done Kate for achieving 28th place overall in the Skittles division!

**Juniors subtotal: 59 silver medals, 30 gold medals**

