

# Newsletter

HELP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Issue: 2020 / February



## MUSIC @ HIS: THINKING WITH SOUNDS

Learn all about what the Music Department at HIS has to offer students.



## F1 IN SCHOOLS STEM CHALLENGE

Check out what our Year 9 F1 in Schools teams are up to as they start to prepare for 'Pitch Day'.



## M.A.D. YOUTH SUMMIT

Be inspired at how these youths made a difference following the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



**Cover:**

*Mr Martin and Dr Gerard with our Mandarin Department, who so diligently and creatively made and organised all of the CNY decorations.*

*Here, we see everyone at the Reunion Dinner takes place on the eve (年除夕) of Chinese New Year. This is an important part of the Chinese tradition that helps keep the family bonded.*

*At HIS, we cherish strong bonds that hold us together as a community, and celebrate the diversity amongst us.*

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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

MR MARTIN VAN RIJSWIJK



I trust that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break over the Chinese New Year period. I was struck by just how quiet KL can get during this time of the year when many families either 'balik kampung', or simply go on holiday somewhere. No traffic jams for a whole week!

February has proven to be a particularly hectic month, with many events taking place. We returned from the Chinese New Year break to concerns over Coronavirus potentially spreading across Asia. Having experienced similar outbreaks during the Bird Flu, Swine Flu, SARS and MERS pandemics, I found myself in familiar territory, as the need for swift safety precautions was immediately obvious. Organisations such as the Federation of British International Schools in Asia (FOBISIA) have proven to be tremendous source of up-to-date information. FOBISIA has allowed us to not only get advice from Malaysian authorities, but also be kept fully informed about what other countries and international schools in Asia are doing to combat the spread of Coronavirus.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the sensible and calm manner in which our community has reacted to the news of the Coronavirus outbreak. I would also like to particularly commend the integrity of those families who had family members that had travelled to China recently, and who very openly shared this information with us and willingly imposed a self-quarantine. This has proved to be tremendously reassuring for our community.

While we have had to be more cautious than usual, the outbreak has not prevented us from proceeding with key events that we had planned. We had an incredibly entertaining and energetic



(L - R) Mr Mark Jones, Mr Martin Van Rijswijk, Mr Matt O'Shea, Mr Paul Lau at the CNY Assembly.

Chinese New Year assembly. Congratulations to our Mandarin Department and our performers who did themselves proud. I couldn't think of nicer, more entertaining way to return back to school.

Recently we hosted an enormously successful *Making a Difference (M.A.D.) Youth Summit* for a number of schools in Malaysia, and also hosted a *Tech for Good* parent talk. Both events were very well attended. Congratulations to four of our teams who were successful in pitching their entrepreneurship and community service proposals at the *M.A.D. Youth Summit*. Team Consenses were awarded RM5,000 to help them action their proposal, while three other HIS teams were also awarded seed money to initiate their projects (see page 9-10 for more details). Congratulations also to Team RedTalks for exhibiting their project and placing 3rd. This reflects well on our school's efforts to develop future leaders.

Last week, we had a Membership Evaluation Team from the Council of International Schools (CIS) visit our school for two days as the initial step in our application for full accreditation with them. CIS is the premier accreditation organisation in the world of international school education. The process is an extremely demanding and thorough one, and will take up to two years to complete. Their rigorous standards include a wide range of criteria, from quality of educational programme to effective health and safety protocols, as well as well-developed governance and administrative policies and procedures.

While there are a lot of schools that have associate member status with CIS, only a small number strive to meet full accredited status with them. Now that we are in our sixth year of operation, it is the right time to set ourselves the goal of achieving full accreditation. The feedback gained from this initial visit by the CIS Evaluator will be included in the strategic plan that we are currently drafting.

Next week, we have Mr Clive Keevil, the new Head of Secondary (who will be starting in April), visiting the school to provide input in the strategic plan that is now in its final stages of preparation. I'm very excited about a number of new initiatives that we are working on, and we look forward to publishing the new school strategic plan early next term.

Mr Martin Van Rijswijk  
Principal



*Mr Martin trying his hand writing a new year greeting at the CNY Chinese Calligraphy Competition organised by the Mandarin Department.*

## APPOINTMENT OF NEW HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR SHANE CAMPBELL

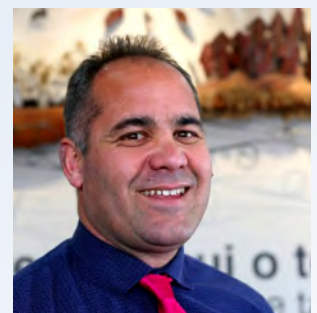
We are pleased to announce that we have appointed Mr Shane Campbell as our new Head of Primary.

With over 22 years of experience in the education sector, Mr Shane joins us from New Zealand where he is currently principal of Bohally Intermediate in the South Island. Bohally Intermediate is a specialist Year 7 & 8 school that has a particularly strong reputation in the areas of mathematics, science and technology. It has a very successful dedicated STEM Centre, whose expertise in innovative technologies and the sciences is utilised by a wide number of other schools in the region. The school itself has experienced significant growth in enrolments under Mr Shane's leadership, and now has a large waiting list of families hoping to get their children into the school.

Mr Shane has also successfully led a number of multi-cultural primary schools (Year 1 – 6), and has recognised expertise in bi-lingual education. His addition to HELP International School will really help us ensure a strong transition in learning between primary and secondary education. Mr Shane will be joined by his wife, Gabriella who will be working as a teacher in the primary school; as well as his two daughters, Ngahuia and Mihi, both of whom will be attending our secondary school.

Mr Shane holds a Bachelor of Teaching and Learning and a Postgraduate Diploma Second Language Teaching from Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand. He is currently the President of the Marlborough Principals' Association in New Zealand.

As you will be aware, Ms Terry Ross will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. Because she was generous enough to give the school early notice, we were able to conduct a very thorough search with interviews in London, as well as in the Asia/Pacific region, for a suitable replacement to take over as our Head of Primary School. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Terry for her dedication and contribution to the School.



# MUSIC @ HIS

## THE ART OF THINKING WITH SOUNDS

by Christine Lee (Alumni), Aletheia Goh (Y12) and Calvin Lim (Y12)

HIS Marketing and Communications Department Interns

With Music Appreciation Week approaching in March (from the 3rd—6th), we wanted to give the HIS community a glimpse of our talented Music Department. This spotlight will be unpacking the music curriculum taught at HIS, as well as the major music co-curricular activities that students can participate in.

At HIS, the curriculum that we have designed is based on the IPC, IMYC, IGCSE and A-Level syllabi. The sequence of topics chosen are modelled in a way that corresponds and supports the IPC/IMYC units.

### Primary School

HIS provides a fun and enriching environment for primary students to study music, offering a wide variety of programmes that range from learning to play musical instruments to utilising the latest music technology. We give them the opportunity to experience music from their own culture as well as exploring music from other places and times.

From Years 1 to 6, we find that students' interests vary with their age group. The Milepost 1 (Years 1-2) learners enjoy playing and singing to mostly percussion instruments, as well as learning about music composers from different countries.

In Milepost 2 (Years 3-4), students have a greater capacity to explore more techniques and rhythmic skills, taking a liking towards African music culture. They learn to play musical instruments: the xylophone and the recorder respectively. Our music programmes allow students with a developed interest in playing an instrument to take up individual music lessons with both internal and external instructors.

The Milepost 3 (Years 5-6) learners are challenged to sing with canon and harmony, additionally, with a guitar or a ukulele in hand.



*Primary students putting on a performance at the last Christmas assembly*

Using GarageBand, they compose short instrumental compositions with chord progressions.

Despite varying interests, the music curriculum was formed with the belief that all learners can develop a genuine appreciation for music.

Primary students explore musical concepts as performers, composers, and listeners. They will develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to make the best of their musical ability.



## Secondary School

In Year 7, topics covered focus more on the performance component. Students listen to and understand the characteristics of music from different genres and cultures. We also teach the basics of various instruments such as guitar, keyboard, ukulele and drums. The students are currently learning about Samba Batucada percussion music from the Brazilian music tradition. Topics such as the common instrumentation and different rhythmic patterns from this type of music will be covered.

In Year 8, our focus is more on the composition component. Students learn about musical characteristics and composition techniques through understanding, listening and identifying the appearance of such techniques in different genres of music. Later on, students are required to compose a short phrase using GarageBand using the compositional techniques that they have learned. They are currently doing this by creating rhythmic patterns that reflect the characteristics of African music.

Year 9 students cover both the performance and composition components equally. Students learn to be innovative and creative in composing and performing in their preferred style. The students are currently learning about rap / hip-hop music and how to compose it using lyrics based on rhyme and slogan. They will also perform the composition using a list of given rap patterns, and are required to decide on the choice of instruments and tempo that they prefer for the musical accompaniment.

Year 11 and Year 13 students focus on listening skills, composing and performing based on the requirements of the IGCSE and A-Level examinations. The choice of repertoire that we analyse and the depth of analysis are based on the different requirements of the respective syllabi and examinations.



*Mr Zailan and Mr Lee joining the students in a performance at the last Deepavali assembly*

At the end of the academic year, students are expected to grow in confidence and creativity, and show in depth understanding of this subject matter through their performance, composition and academic discussion of music.

## Musical Co-Curricular Activities

Here at HIS, we provide a wide selection of CCAs, including numerous music CCAs of varying musical genres for students to experience and join. Listed below are the various music CCAs made available for our students.

### 24 Festive Drums

Founded in 2016, our 24 Festive Drums programme led by Ms Yong Wai Kuan has been a major success over the years. Although it struggled to recruit students at the beginning, more students are now showing their interest in this CCA, led by Hands Percussion. This was made possible by the founding students' enthusiasm and determination to showcase the culture and heritage of the 24 Festive Drums programme, as well as their amazing performances in several events thanks to Hands Percussion's Education and Outreach Team.

Ms Yong and her team of 28 talented drummers have performed in several major events including Open Days, Family Day, charity events, assemblies, music concerts and more, impressing both students and parents alike. To improve their drumming and performance skill levels, future plans for the 24 Festive Drums include attending a Drum Camp to interact with drummers from other schools, performing in more events outside of school and attending Outreach Programmes in Taiwan and China to better understand the cultural origins of the 24 Festive Drums.



*The Secondary Festive Drums troupe was invited to perform at the Entrepreneurs' Organisation Malaysia's 2020 Chinese New Year dinner at the Kuala Lumpur And Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall.*



← The HIS Chinese Orchestra recently held a overnight camp at school for over 30 students where they practiced in smaller groups to build their confidence and playing skills. It was also an opportunity for team building to get to know each other better and to promote teamwork.

### Chinese Orchestra

The Chinese Orchestra was founded by Mr Lee Boon Keat in 2015. The orchestra started off small, but over the years, it has grown into a massive group of talented musicians thanks to the efforts of Mr Lee in spreading the word and attracting students interested in Chinese culture and language. The Chinese Orchestra has performed in several major events, including assemblies, Open Days and musical concerts.

The team has had several collaborations with other schools to broaden the knowledge of the students, as well as to improve their own skill level. Mr Lee wishes to challenge all the students by slowly raising the difficulty level of their performances over time. This July, the Chinese Orchestra will be organising their very own concert, so be on the lookout! They also plan to visit Taiwan in December for a student exchange programme.

### Jazz/Contemporary Ensemble

The Jazz/Contemporary Ensemble is a new CCA founded by Mr Zailan Razak during the academic year 2019/2020. As it is relatively new, the Jazz Ensemble has not had any chances to perform at major events, but it will be performing during Music Appreciation Week and at HELP Music Festival hosted by Tunku Putra HIS in Kuching this March.

This is one of the first steps towards getting a “Big Bang” in HIS to expose the students to different music of Jazz origin like Latin Music, Big Band Music, Swing Music, Blues Music and even to the current R&B, Soul and Pop music. It is also planning on starting a Jazz Band/Big Band, Orchestra, Symphonic Band and also Marching Band in the near future. Mr Zailan is currently recruiting students who are interested and have had experiences playing Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass and Drums/ Percussion.



### HIS Sinfonetta

The HIS Sinfonetta is a musical group formed by Ms Chew Yi Tien in April 2019. It recruits students through a selective auditioning process, as well as constant observation of students who could potentially benefit from this CCA during music lessons. A small group of students from the HIS Sinfonetta participated in the Association of International Malaysian Schools (AIMS) Ensemble Competition in 2019, and will look to participate in more events organised by AIMS.

Ms Chew plans to expand the HIS Sinfonetta into the HIS Symphony Orchestra in the next 3 to 5 years by actively and continuously recruiting new members into the CCA.







### HIS Voicescapers

The HIS Voicescapers is a small choir group that was brought together by Ms Chew Yi Tien and Ms Yong this academic year. The choir consists of primary and secondary students from Year 3 all the way to A-Level. Ms Chew and Ms Yong, along with the help of Ms Claire and Ms Joanna, lead the students to perform all kinds of different songs, from Christmas carols to famous musical numbers. Currently, the HIS Voicescapers have performed in a few assemblies and will be performing during the Music Appreciation Week. We welcome any interested students to join the group.

The Music Department is looking at the long term progress and sustainability of the HIS Music Programme, and will be looking at ways to continue attracting the younger generation of students. They will also be exploring the possibility of engaging industrial practitioners and experts to conduct workshops and other activities for our students' benefit.

In the medium to long term, the Department is also exploring the possibility of our students participating in music camps and music festivals organised at the national and international levels.



*Even teachers get a chance to learn a new musical instrument during their CCAs*



### The Team

The Music Department comprises (from left to right): Mrs Chew Yi Tien (Secondary), Mr Zailan Razak (Secondary), and Ms Yong Wai Kuan (Primary).

We are also grateful for the assistance of the following teachers in working with us for the various musical co-curricular activities on offer:

#### 24 Festive Drums

- Ms Yong Wai Kuan

#### Chinese Orchestra

- Mr Lee Boon Keat
- Ms Yap Hui Ling
- Ms Irene Tsen
- Ms Phoebe Goh

#### Jazz Ensemble

- Mr Zailan Razak

#### HIS Sinfonetta

- Mrs Chew Yi Tien
- Ms Yong Wai Kuan
- Ms Shumita Van Rijswijk
- Ms Peta Medcalf

#### Voicescapers of HIS

- Ms Yong Wai Kuan
- Ms Joanna Liaw
- Ms Claire Cuthbert

*Where  
words  
fail,  
music  
speaks.*

*~ Hans  
Christian  
Andersen*



# M.A.D. YOUTH SUMMIT 2020

February 15

It was a great turn out at the recent M.A.D. Youth Summit which was co-organised by Leaderonomics and HIS. About 1,500 students and parents from all across the Klang Valley, came to attend talks and network with industry leaders; students had the opportunity to exhibit and pitch their ideas for seed funding.



We had the privilege of having YB Hannah Yeoh, Deputy Minister of Women, Family and Community Development host a M.A.D. Youth Grill, as well as speakers from the Star Media Group, AirAsia, Microsoft, Snapchat and MAD E-Sports among others.

Centred around the 17 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Summit challenged youths to make a difference in their school, community, kampong, city or even the planet.



"I was honoured to exhibit my work at the M.A.D. Youth Summit. I had learnt so much during the exhibition, I received a lot of feedback and ideas on how to improve the enzyme and how to bring what I have achieved to the next level. It was also such a good opportunity to spread awareness on how everyone can contribute to help our ecosystem!"

~ Precious Hong (Y11)





### M.A.D. Youth Summit Pitchout

10 groups successfully made it to the final round of M.A.D. Youth Summit 2020 Pitchout! All the pitches showed that the youths are connected and aware of social issues, and the needs of society and environment. They put their minds and hearts to propose solutions that make a difference.

Congratulations to the following HIS teams:

#### Consenses (Year 12s) RM5,000

- Lee Young Woo, Hannah Yoo, Tunku Annur Nazirshah, Erica Ng, Olivia Ng
- SDG #4: Quality Education
- Project Purpose: Teaching the youth about sex education, specifically talking about consent

#### Youth Charity Hub (Year 12s) RM3,000

- Imran Anwar, Julia Oh, Ashley Kow, Joshua Verghese Bijoy, Marcus Ng, Terence Ong, Calvin Lim Kai Bin, Heywon Jeon, Ng Zu Sheng
- SDG #17: Partnerships for the Goals
- Project Purpose: Platform that connects youths to charities and the volunteering programmes all around Kuala Lumpur

#### U-DON (Year 12s) RM1,000

- Young Jei Lee, Zain Alabideen Bashar, Ethan Reece Fernandez, Dawn Koh, Takumi Hor, Ryan Yeo
- SDG #17: Partnerships for the Goals
- Project Purpose: Digital platform allowing users, volunteers and patrons to communicate with organisations, raising funds via monetised video advertisements

#### Mindspace KL (Year 12s) RM1,000

- Isaac Ong Joe Qian, Chung Yi, Chloe Ng Shen Yee, Goh Liang Gin, Rohan Sivam Kunandran, Joshua Rahul Sreedharan, Adam Daniel Ristau
- SDG #3: Good Health And Well-Being
- Project Purpose: Aim to improve the mental stability of our teenage community

### M.A.D. Youth Summit Exhibition Challenge

Congratulations to Team **RedTalks** from HIS who placed 3rd at this year's Exhibition Challenge, showcasing how their project had already made significant social impact in the local community.

- Charmaine Cheong, Rahemma Azwar, Aida Sabrina Hood, Nethraa Narendran, Juhi Todi (Year 13s)
- SDG #3: Good Health And Well-Being
- Project Purpose: Powering to normalise periods and advance sex education using social media, fundraisers and outreach programmes.





# LEARNING & EXPLORING

## JASS CCA - ORPHANAGE SHOEBOX PROJECT

On December 9, HIS JASS CCA went to the Cahaya Kasih Bestari home to deliver donated items to children who are under their care. For two and a half months, the students of JASS CCA had worked on their social responsibility project, Orphanage Shoebox Project, which was to support the needy within the local community. A 100% student led initiative, the students communicated with their chosen orphanage, identified the help needed and decided on the items they had to collect and donate.

The students were involved in producing posters explaining what the project was about and what their goals were. A collection box was set up; students and teachers donated generously. The students were pleasantly surprised to have received five boxes of stationary, books, toys and toiletries.

The JASS CCA are very proud that they accomplished the task they had set out to do with the help of the student body. It was very touching to see how simple items we sometimes take for granted, such as a pencil, can make a difference to a young person's life. It is the students hope that this new relationship will continue and develop in the future. At JASS CCA we have discovered that simply taking the time to actively participate in our immediate community is a most rewarding investment and can be a lot of fun!



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD - BRONZE PRE-EXPEDITION, GOPENG

From February 14-16, the Bronze DofE students went on an overnight pre-expedition to Gopeng, Perak. The trip was essentially a trial run for students to complete their practice and to qualify for the Adventurous Journey section of their Duke of Edinburgh's International Award for the Bronze level.



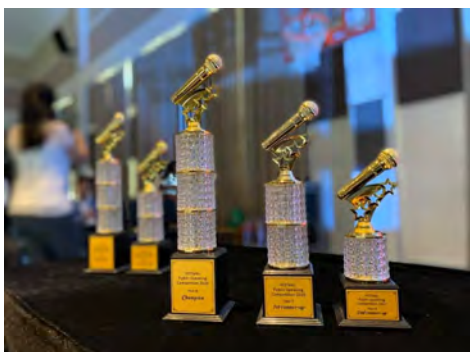
# HISTALKS

February 4



HISTalks, a public speaking competition for students in Year 7 to Year 10 is an annual fixture on the school calendar. All students prepared and presented their speech in class, and three students from each year group was then selected as finalists - performing in front of the school, teachers and parents.

This year's panel of judges included Mr Mark Jones, Ms Keilah Lees, Ms Sarah Hutchins, and two Year 12 - Aletheia Goh and Jerome Bun, both whom are accomplished debaters and public speakers.





Congratulations to all the students who made the top 3!

## Year 7

- 1st Ariana Hafiz
- 2nd William Tsao
- 3rd Winthrop Liu

## Year 8

- 1st Aidan Kow
- 2nd Isaac Lim
- 3rd Kate Tee

## Year 9

- 1st Sofea Razalee
- 2nd Ryan Lim Sheng Yang
- 3rd Naomi Tee

## Year 10

- 1st Chew Yu Xuan
- 2nd Arjun Gunalan
- 3rd Ong Joo Hann

A big thank you goes out to the English Department for organising, and thank you to our judges, teachers and parents who supported the event.



“If I went back to college again, I’d concentrate on two areas: learning to write and to speak before an audience. Nothing in life is more important than the ability to communicate effectively.”

~ Gerald R. Ford, 38th President of the United States (1974 - 1977)



## MEET & GREET WITH MS EUNICE LAU

February 5

Our secondary students, most of them from Cinematic Club, CCA and teachers had an insightful time listening to Ms Eunice Lau - screenwriter, filmmaker and director, who shared her stories, her filmmaking journey, and her experience with those marginalised and silenced.

A former broadcast journalist, she was nominated for an AMPAS Student Academy Award in 2012 and received a Spike Lee Fellowship for her documentary on the struggle of Asian Americans. Her film "Through the Fire" filmed in Somalia, was nominated for best short documentary at AMPAS Student Academy in 2013 while she was pursuing her MFA in film directing at New York University. Her latest documentary "Accept The Call" received a special mention for best documentary at the 2019 Woodstock Film Festival.

Ms Eunice has a master's in film directing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and a bachelor's in politics philosophy and economics from University of York. Her works have appeared on Discovery Channel, Al Jazeera English and Channel News Asia.



## UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE ADMISSIONS TALK

February 12

To cater for different needs of our A-Level cohort, HIS continues to invite speakers from UK universities as well as other countries to conduct university talks and workshops in various fields.



This time, we were delighted to host a session by Ms Claire Canning, Deputy Student Recruitment Manager (International) of University of Cambridge Admission Office. Year 12 students were given a walkthrough on the application process, deadlines, what to expect and the many undergraduate opportunities.





# in Schools

## STEM Challenge

### FEBRUARY PROJECT UPDATE!

#### Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead!

The F1 in Schools Year 9 project is well underway as students design their team branding and products in preparation for 'Pitch Day'. What is Pitch Day you might ask? In the middle of the term, students will pitch their racing team concept designing per DT discipline. For example, students in Textile Engineering will pitch their team merchandising and fashion design for their custom made racing hoodies. In Product Engineering, students will pitch their 3D Car design and livery. Finally in Food Engineering, students will pitch their catering packaging designs and menus. Once the staff judges have deliberated the best concepts, the students will form their final teams across classes. This is a momentous occasion as industry roles are solidified within the teams and the real production can begin!

## SECTOR UPDATES

### SECTOR 1

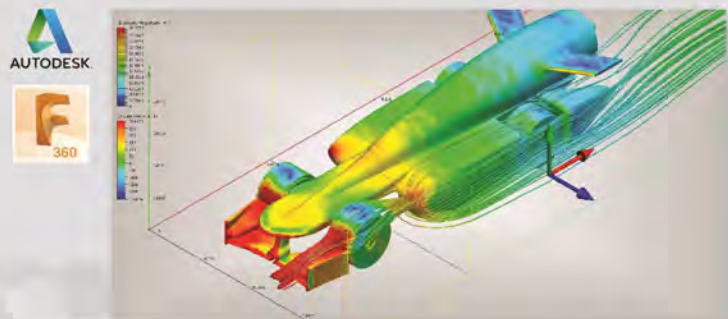


In the PD Sector, students have learned about aerodynamics, downforce, drag and the effects of these forces on moving objects. A live simulation was run using Autodesk Flow Design, a real industry program used in aerospace and aeronautical engineering. Students have also developed their hand drawn logos into Adobe Illustrator and learned the real industry graphic design workflow. We have some great team branding developing and we can't wait to see them applied to the car models!

#### IPAD CAR LIVERY DESIGN



#### AUTODESK FLOW DESIGN FORCE STUDIES



#### ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR TEAM LOGO DESIGN





## SECTOR 2



In Food Engineering, the chefs have concepted and designed logos and branding for their catering companies. After developing their branding, the chefs practiced batch cooking for large events by making cream puffs, chocolate chip cookies and sliders to name a few. The chefs then began designing their catering packaging using box net templates. The designs are professional and impressive and these will be visible at their F1 booths to attract more attention to the team!

### BATCH COOKING FOR CATERING!



## SECTOR 3

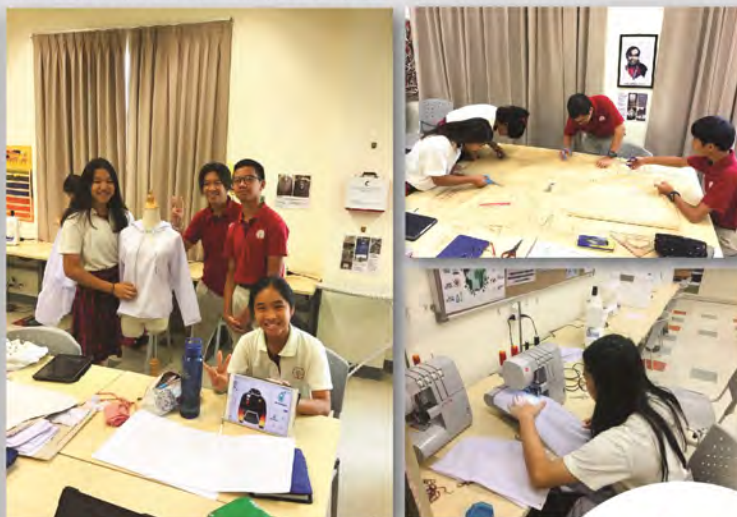



The Textiles Engineers have been busy collaborating and honing their critical thinking skills whilst experiencing an exciting real life design context! They have learnt core garment construction skills and textiles engineering methods such as sublimation printing whilst constructing their prototype hoodie. The teams, which consist of brand strategists, creative directors and fashion designers have also learnt to use Apple Pencils to create professional working drawings and fashion illustrations to develop a merchandise collection to present to the panel on 'Pitch Day!'

### RANGE DRAWINGS



### PRET-A-TEMPLATE IPAD APP



Follow the journey @HISDesignArts 

"F1 in Schools is a fun and exciting experience for children our age to get real-life experience!" - Oh, Joonwon / Year 9 Mozart





# TECH4GOOD

## parent workshop

February 13



### TECH FOR GOOD

FROM DISTRACTION TO CONNECTION

Come join our panel as we discuss how we can practice tech for good - converting the disruption into meaningful connections and constructive solutions.

**13 FEBRUARY 2020 • 9:00AM - 10:30AM**  
**HELP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**  
**No.2, Persiaran Cakerawala, Subang Bestari**



**MODERATED BY MS MEERA SIVASOTHY**  
 General Manager at BFM: The Business Radio Station



**DR GERARD LOUIS**  
 CEO of HELP Education Services (HES), and the Dean of the Faculty of Behavioural Science, Education and Languages at HELP University



**MS JENNY OOI**  
 Organisational Advisor, and former Senior Vice President of HR at USG Boral Building Products



**MR JAMIE SPEAKMAN**  
 Learning Innovation Coordinator at HELP International School



**MR SHEN LOONG ONG**  
 Country Director of Lalamove

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY




“How should we raise this generation of digital natives to use tech for good?”

Co-hosted by HELP International School and Malaysia International Schools Parents Support Group (MIPSG), this panel event brought together a team of educational specialists and industry leaders to discuss how we can practise tech for good – converting the disruption into meaningful connections and constructive solutions.

Participants were given insights from Dr Gerard Louis (Dean of the Faculty of Behavioural Science, Education and Languages at HELP University), Ms Jenny Ooi (Human Resources and Talent Management Expert), Mr Shen Loong Ong (Country Director of Lalamove) and Mr Jamie Speakman (Learning Innovation Coordinator at HIS). The discussion was moderated by Ms Meera Sivasothy (General Manager at BFM radio station).





# MILEPOST 2 & 3

## SPORTS DAY

January 22



### MILEPOST 2 & 3 (Year 3 - 6) RESULTS

1st	Pegasus	1,328 points
2nd	Dragon	1,275 points
3rd	Griffin	1,022 points
4th	Phoenix	1,010 points









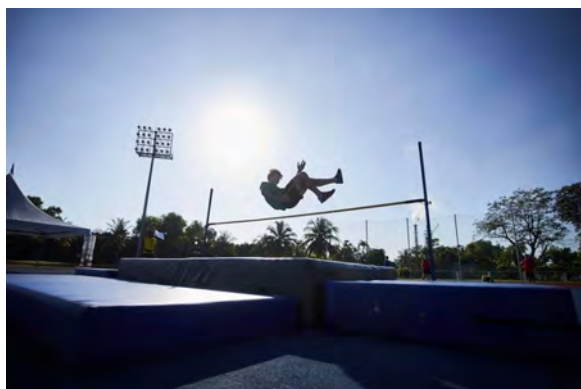
# SECONDARY SPORTS DAY

January 23



## SECONDARY & A-LEVEL RESULTS

1st	Phoenix	3,919 points
2nd	Pegasus	3,872 points
3rd	Dragon	3,783 points
4th	Griffin	3,357 points



"A trophy carries dust. Memories last forever."

~Mary Lou Retton

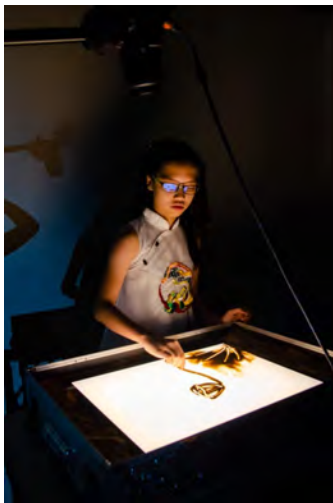






# CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

February 7



恭喜发财







## Calligraphy Competition

January 16

Our secondary students, teachers and senior leadership team earnestly took up our annual calligraphy challenge and produced some credible work.

Thank you to our Mandarin Department for organising this yearly challenge, as well for all the festive décor. Well done to all students who participated, and congratulations to the following winners.

### 甲组:

- 冠 Choe, Xin Yen (Alanie) (9 Mozart)
- 亚 Kim, Yaejin (9 Benedetti)
- 季 Hooi, Wei Jie (Clariss) (10 Ma)

### 乙组:

- 冠 Zhang, Moqing (7 Michelangelo)
- 亚 Chong, Ying Jie (Cherish) (9 Xing Hai)
- 季 Gunalan, Arjun (10 Buffett)

### 丙组:

- 冠 Choong, Zi Wei (10 Zhang Xin)
- 亚 Lee, Rui Yen (8 Naipaul)
- 季 Chai, Tristan Zan Tin (8 Austen)

### 丁组:

- 冠 Ong, Elyssa E Xin (9 Mangeshkar)
- 亚 Chew, Jolynn Ai Ling (Jolynn) (9 Mangeshkar)
- 季 Chan, Terrence Jia Le (Terrence) (9 Benedetti)





# PARENT events

## SOAP-MAKING WITH USED COOKING OIL

January 13

Reduce, reuse and recycle helps us to cut down on the amount of waste we throw away. Recycling your used cooking oil into homemade soap is a great way to create less waste, is friendlier on the environment and provides the opportunity to gift some personalised soap to friends.

Big thanks to Ms Charmaine, Ms Anny, Ms Samante and the Eco-Schools team for conducting this parent workshop.



## IGCSE BM: UNDERSTANDING THE EXAMS

February 4

In a series of workshops, the BM Department led by Ms Dessy will be taking Year 9 and Year 11 parents through the various IGCSE BM papers to understand the content and expectations.



**"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow."**  
~ Anthony J. D'Angelo, author

## IGCSE MATHS: UNDERSTANDING THE EXAMS

February 21

Ms Siti conducted a workshop specifically for Year 10 parents who are interested to know about the structure of the IGCSE Maths papers.

They looked at: the outline of the syllabus covered, understanding the requirements of each paper (Paper 2 & Paper 4), some examiner feedback for some sections from Paper 4, and sharing of resources for parents to further support their child at home.







# ECO-SCHOOLS




## EARTH HOUR

Earth Hour is a worldwide movement which is organised by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). It is usually held towards the end of March, which coincides with the time of the Spring and Autumn equinoxes in the northern and southern hemispheres — this allows for a greater visual impact as the lights go out due to near simultaneous sunset times across the world.

This year, Earth Hour will be held on the March 28. Between 8:30pm to 9:30pm on this day, non-essential electric lights will be turned off for the entire hour across the globe. This event has been happening every year since 2007, supported by millions of individuals and thousands of businesses each year.

Earth Hour aims to unite people from different parts of the world together in an effort to tackle climate change. Turning off the lights for one hour once a year may seem relatively insignificant towards that. However, it provides an opportunity to create a united front to combat climate change by raising awareness and inspiring more people to take action beyond the hour, such as by supporting a local WWF project or getting involved in bigger Earth Hour campaigns in their respective countries.

Since it began, the Earth Hour movement has helped to:

-  Distribute thousands of wood-saving stoves to families in Madagascar
-  Install solar-powered lights in villages without electricity in India
-  Build public support to gain an extension of the temporary prohibition period of logging to reduce deforestation in Paraguay

and so much more!



### How can you join the movement?

HIS will be running activities in conjunction with other Malaysian schools as well as with a school in the Philippines during Earth Hour.

Keep an eye out for more details leading up to the event!

“Turn off your lights for one hour to show your commitment to protecting nature. Together we’ll speak up for wildlife and forests. We’ll show our support for rivers and oceans. And we’ll rally around crucial actions needed to curb climate change.

Life is resilient when we give it the chance to bounce back.”



# DIGNITY FOR CHILDREN FOUNDATION VISIT

February 6

Some of our prefects and teachers visited the Dignity for Children Foundation which is a non-governmental organisation that provides holistic care and education for urban poor children in Kuala Lumpur, to present a RM10,000 mock cheque. This was an accumulation of donations that were kindly contributed by HIS families during our 2019 Christmas Charity Drive.

They were given a tour of the school as well as its numerous associated social enterprises. Our students were also given the opportunity to interact with some of Dignity's students. Through this trip, HIS students were able to gain more insights into how the Dignity school and social enterprises are run, and get to know Dignity's vibrant community.



From listening to the stories of some of the children in the school and what they've been through, I think it's amazing how the Dignity for Children Foundation manages to offer them an education and a chance to explore their interests and hobbies. I've learnt how grateful we should be to have the lives we have, and how much planning and detail goes into running an organisation like this.

~ Vara Qi Gunananthan



I think that what the Dignity for Children Foundation is doing for its students is honestly amazing. This foundation is giving students who have not been able to go to school a chance to not only be educated, but to learn different life and social skills which will help them greatly in the future.

~ Kareena Sivam Kunandran

After talking to the children, I learned that some of the students would stop school and help their parents because they put their families first and appreciate the things that their families have done for them.

~ Aimee Lim

I was amazed by how they ran the school - the children learn other different things instead of just the usual Math, Science, and English. There are facilities like an art room, kitchen, woodwork space, and even a hair salon. These types of facilities help the students not only to express themselves, but also teach the students basic life skills.

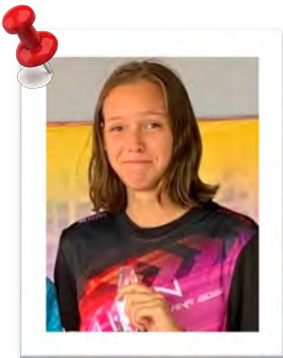
~ Marie Asha Louis

I learned that some children were actually married off by their families, and Dignity had to step in and bring them back. Before visiting, I had always taught these cases were one in a million, so knowing that it happens much more often than I thought was eye opening. It really reminded me to appreciate my circumstance and to hopefully be able to help others to eventually be successful, so that these cases happen less and less.

~ Chew Han Xheng



# STUDENT corner



**Tara Bayly (Y8)**

**113 AQUATHLON**

*January 19, Malacca*

Category: 14-16yrs Dash  
(300m swim, 2km run)

★ 2nd place



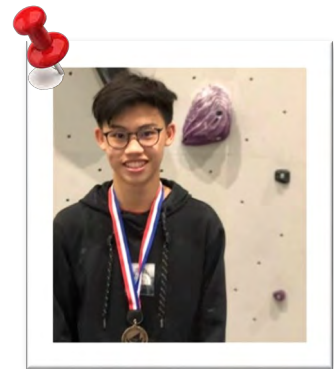
**Chloe Bayly (Y5)**

**113 AQUATHLON**

*January 19, Malacca*

Category: 10-12yrs old Junior  
(100m swim, 500m run)

★ 1st place



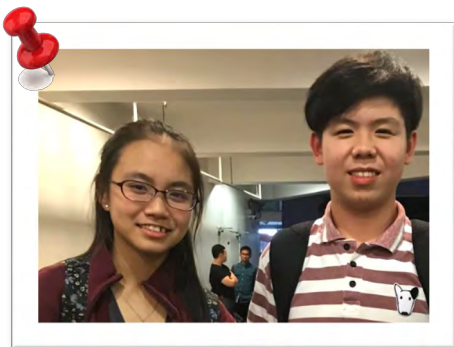
**Adam Shiew (Y12)**

**CAMP 5 INTER SCHOOL  
CLIMBING LEAGUE**

*February 7, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: 16-18 years

★ 1st place



**Teioh Nuan Ning (Y9)**

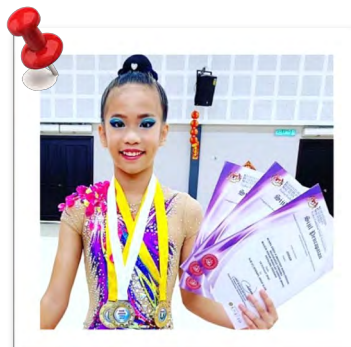
**Kieve Cheong (Y9)**

**SUNWAY INTERSCHOOL DEBATE  
CHAMPIONSHIP 2020**

*February 15, Selangor*

★ Nuan Ning - 4th Best Speaker  
Award

★ Kieve - 5th Best Speaker Award



**Goh Jit Wern (Y7)**

**MSSD Rhythmic Gymnastics**

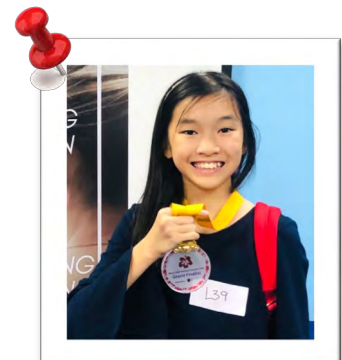
*February 10, Selangor*

Category: Grade 4

★ Overall - Gold

★ Clubs - Gold

★ Ball - Silver



**Tee Kai Marn, Kate (Y8)**

**Malaya National Public Speaking  
Competition 2020**

*February 16, Kuala Lumpur*

Category: Lower Secondary

★ 7th place

If you would like to share your  
achievements with us, please  
complete the google form:

[http://bit.ly/  
HISExternalAchievements](http://bit.ly/HISExternalAchievements)





## DEBATING: TEAM MALAYSIA 2020

February 3, Kuala Lumpur

Congratulations to **Jerome Bun Zi Cheng (Y12)** for securing a place in the Malaysian national debating team 2020. Jerome will be competing with the national team at the World Schools Debating Championships in Mexico, in July 2020.

Congratulations also go out to **Arjun Gunalan (Y10)** who secured a place in the Future Squad. Arjun will be training and competing alongside the national team.

The World Schools Debating Championships is an annual international debating competition that brings teams from over 60+ nations to different cities to debate across 2-3 days on various motions pertaining to historical events and current affairs.

Selections for the Malaysian national team open up every year, allowing for 60 of Malaysia's top high school debaters to battle it out to earn a coveted spot on the national team. They will go on to represent Malaysia in the World Schools Debating Championship. Selections are decided by the Malaysian World Schools Debating Committee, and potential candidates have to undergo a written test along with 6 rounds of debating before a final decision is made.



Jerome Bun (Y12)



Arjun Gunalan (Y10)

## FERMAT MATHEMATICS QUALIFYING WORKSHOP

February 15, Kuala Lumpur

Organised by HELP University's Department of American and Canadian Education, in conjunction with the University of Waterloo, Canada, the FERMAT Mathematics Qualifying Workshop challenged students to think critically and creatively to solve mathematical problems.

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who booked a place in the qualifying round of the FERMAT Mathematics Contest that will be held on February 26, 2020:

- ★ Kang Jaeyun
- ★ Yee Tze Heng
- ★ Kanisha Anbalagan
- ★ Lam Wan Nee
- ★ Jeon Sangwon



If you would like to share your achievements with us, please complete the google form:  
<http://bit.ly/HISExternalAchievements>



# KANCIL SCIENCE COMPETITION



## INTRODUCTION

- » Open to all Malaysian school students
- » Incorporates the Malaysian school curriculum and real-life contemporary issues
- » Inspire young learners to excel in science knowledge and practices
- » Creates the pathway for career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
- » Test students' understanding of science concept through Malaysia's culture thus creating solutions to problems with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills
- » To increase science enrichment activities as part of STEM initiative in Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025

Kancil Science Competition is officially endorsed by **Ministry of Education Malaysia**.  
All participants will obtain **PAJSK** co-curriculum marks.



## CATEGORIES

**Applicable to Year 7 - Year 13 students**

Please refer to your weekly reports on how to sign up. Deadline for registrations is February 27, 2020.



**GAMMA** (Form 1, 2 & 3)



**DELTA** (Form 4, 5 & 6)

## 2019 AT A GLANCE

About 10,000 students participated in the Kancil Science Competition 2019. Among them, 103 winners from the Gamma category were invited to participate in the Malaysian Junior Science Olympiad (MyJSO). The MyJSO took place in July 2019 at the Kulliyah of ICT, International Islamic University Malaysia. It was a day-long contest that covers theoretical, practical and experimental aspects of science.

The six top scorers from MyJSO 2019 were invited to attend a series of training camps held in University Malaya, and to represent Malaysia in the International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO). The IJSO was held in the beautiful city of Doha, Qatar in December 2019. A total of 403 students from 70 countries took part in IJSO. The Malaysian team did the country proud by winning 5 bronze and 1 silver medals. This extraordinary achievement of the national team was covered in The Star newspaper on 20 December 2019 under the heading "Teenagers make Malaysia proud".

