



JURONGVILLE NEWSLETTER

Official newsletter of Jurongville Secondary School



Together As One

In this issue:

Interviews with
the Principal &
Alumni

School Events
& Community
Outreach

Showcase of
Students' Talents
& Achievements

Staff Activities
& Partnership with
Koishikawa Secondary
Education School



GETTING TO KNOW OUR PRINCIPAL

INTERVIEW WITH MR CHAN YEW WOOL

By Ang Wei Xiang (2E1) & Sandi Noe Noe Htet (2E1)

As the Principal of Jurongville Secondary School, what you do on a day-to-day basis?

I do lots of things but in short, I communicate with many groups of people in a variety of ways daily. For instance, I have meetings with teachers, discussions with HODs, conversations with parents, and exchanges with colleagues from MOE HQ. Before I speak, I always make it a point to think through what I want to communicate. Responding to emails is an increasingly important part of my work, so my daily schedule is very packed.



What is your general impression of the Jurongville students and teachers thus far?



I find that the teachers are very committed to their work. I often see teachers interacting with their students after school hours – counselling them or coaching them on their school work. I also see teachers engaging students in their respective CCAs because they believe that CCAs are a very important part of the school programme. As for the students, I think that they look very smart in their new Jurongville school uniform!

A memorable experience...

My most memorable experience so far would be the Fitness Run in Term 1. The event was a successful one and I was glad that many parents from the Parent Support Group (PSG) came down to support us despite it being a work day. They also helped to give away prizes at the end of the run. The strong rapport between the school and the PSG is very clear throughout the event.

Since the school started this year, there have been quite a few changes. For example, we have a new school logo and uniform. What other changes can we expect in the future?

First of all, after Speech Day, the newly-renovated library will be opened. The new library features a Heritage Gallery which showcases the history of both schools, Hong Kah and Jurongville. It is appropriately named "Our Story". Secondly, the school field with an artificial pitch will be completed in Semester 2. The pitch can be used for PE lessons and CCA training sessions. Progressively, the physical environment of our school will be further improved to make it more conducive for all students and staff.

If a genie can grant you three wishes for the school, what would they be?

Firstly, I would wish for everyone to be in good health. With good health, we can strive towards what we aspire. Secondly, I hope everyone will remain positive despite the challenges that we face as life is full of ups and downs. We ought to remain optimistic; with consistent effort, all challenges can be overcome. Thirdly, I hope that we will continue to work and learn harmoniously together, as we have done so far.

What led you to join the teaching career? Have you always wanted to be an educator?

My mother was a Chinese teacher and I used to see her doing her school work at home. What I saw growing up influenced me to be an educator. So yes, becoming a teacher was my first choice.



“

My favourite quote is by Winston Churchill—‘We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. I like this quote because it is about altruism. Coincidentally, this quote is quite similar to our school’s philosophy—‘Everyone can Learn, Everyone can Achieve, Everyone can Contribute’.

”

What do you do during your free time?

I enjoy jogging, and I jog about 2 to 3 times a week. I also enjoy reading books like novels and sometimes a book about human psychology. Watching television is another thing I do in my free time. Besides catching up on the local news, I am now watching an interesting Chinese soap opera entitled 'Story of Yan Xi Palace' on Channel U.

SEC 1 ORIENTATION & CCA FAIR



Welcoming Our Sec 1 Students

By Gangaraju Vivek (3E2) & Eng Li Yan (3N2)

**IGNITE
THE FIRE
IN YOU!**



On 2 January 2019, the student councillors held the annual Secondary One Orientation.

The Secondary One Orientation was planned and organised by the Student Executive Council members. The planning for the event started in August 2018 to ensure that the activities would be engaging and meaningful. The objective of the event was to help the Secondary One students who were new to the school environment to transit smoothly to secondary school life, and bond with their new classmates and class mentors.

The theme of this year's camp was 'Ignite the Fire in You'. The student leaders selected this theme as they wanted to motivate the Secondary One cohort to embrace the new people in their lives—their teachers and classmates. The orientation programme also provided the opportunity to forge friendships between classmates and was a chance for students to get to know their class mentors in a fun way.

Gearing Up for the CCA Fair

On 4 January 2019, all the Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) groups set up booths promoting their own CCAs to attract the Secondary One students to join them. The Secondary One students as well as the various CCA group representatives had a wonderful time. The CCA representatives were happy to see the Secondary One students trying out their activities at their booth.

The highlight of the three-day orientation event was the campfire during which all the Secondary One classes had to perform a special item. Despite feeling nervous, they showed courage by stepping up and giving their all for the performance. Their parents were also there to support their children. There was much laughter heard around the campfire and that made all the hard work worthwhile. The camp ended with a prize presentation for the best performances during the campfire. A fellow student councillor told us, "Although not every class won a prize, they were all winners."



"I felt glad that they tried the pioneering structure—a playground—because this was their first time trying out new stuff. Maybe the experience can influence them to join Scouts and learn to acquire the skills in building such a structure."

Muhd Aniq Amsyar, a Scout from Class 3N4



PROJECT LOVE

Showing our love to the community



THE GIFT OF GIVING

By Keerthana D/O Mutharasu (2E2) & Jaaiswarya Lakshmi Suriyah (2E2)

At the start of the year, students were involved in Project Love which aims to bring people of different ages and races together for a common cause to touch and improve the lives of disadvantaged families.

To bring cheer to these households during the Chinese New Year season, students donated food items to put together two hampers a class. They brought packets of rice, instant noodles, canned food, toothpastes, and other daily necessities to fill up their hampers. They also exercised care to ensure that the food items donated were halal certified. All the hampers were then decorated with cards bearing inspirational quotes and well-wishes.

On 2 February 2019, just a few days before the much anticipated Chinese New Year, 58 students—19 from 4TA and 39 from 4T1 distributed 49 beautifully-packed hampers in Jurong. Mr Ang Wei Neng, Member of Parliament in Jurong GRC, made the project even more memorable when he joined in the occasion to distribute the hampers.



Mikhail from 4TA presenting a hamper to one of the residents of Jurong East.

LIGHTING UP THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

By Nurul Badrina Binte Hamizan (3E2) & Lim Zheng Xiang (3E2)



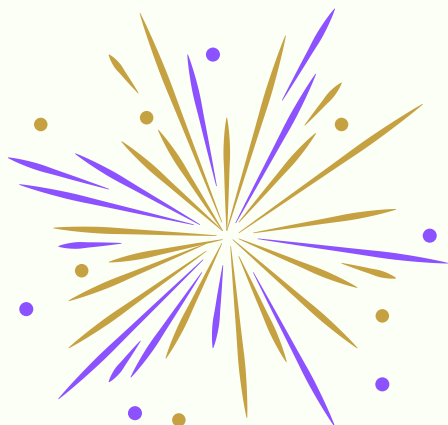
On 4 February 2019, the Chinese New Year Concert had an exciting start when the school leaders and guests were welcomed by a rousing lion dance performance by members of the International Dance Club.

Following that, students were treated to the harmonious sounds of the different traditional Chinese instruments performed by the Chinese Orchestra and the Guzheng Ensemble.

Our international dance members also amazed us with their graceful and synchronised dance moves in a second performance. Then, the students were treated to a magic show and were awed by the illusions put up by the magician. It was great to see how expertly the magician impressed the huge crowd!

Short quizzes on the customs associated with Chinese New Year were interspersed throughout the concert. This allowed the students to expand their knowledge of the Chinese culture. The students' enthusiasm was evident as many raised their hands to answer the questions in the hope of winning a prize.

To end off the memorable occasion, the choir led the school in singing a much-loved Chinese New Year song <贺新年> (hè xīn nián). Everyone enjoyed the concert very much and appreciated all the performances.



TOTAL DEFENCE DAY

By Ng Choi Yin (3E1) & Ruth Martinez Villegas (2E3)

From 11 to 15 February, JVS commemorated Total Defence Day. We were reminded that each and every one of us had a part to play in keeping Singapore safe.

During the assembly programme, students learned about the Total Defence framework, which consists of five pillars: Military, Economic, Psychological, Social, and Civil Defence. We also learned that a sixth pillar has been added this year: Digital Defence – Be Secure, Alert and Responsible Online. This is critical in the light of the increasing pace of global digitalisation.

In addition to the assembly programme, students also sat through a CCE lesson where they discussed various scenarios pertaining to Digital Defence, an aspect which was new to many of them. This challenged many students' perceptions of cyber security and privacy.

Thanks to the teachers and students' efforts, the audience had an enjoyable time and found the programme very beneficial, with many of them saying that they look forward to next year's programme!

SOME OF THE PROGRAMMES ON THAT DAY



National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) students introduced the SGSecure mobile application to the student body, and shared the “run, hide, tell” procedure during times of crisis.



The St. John's Ambulance Brigade (SJAB) also performed skits on various security threats and how we should react to them.

SINGAPORE BICENTENNIAL

By Ng Choi Yin (3E1)



As Singapore celebrates 35 years of Total Defence, we also commemorate the 200th anniversary of Sir Stamford Raffles' landing in 1819. In honour of our bicentennial, our Scouts embarked on a hike to various historical sites in the Jurong area, and learned about the historical significance of Chinese Garden, Hong Kah Village, Jurong Combined Temple and Jurong-Kranji Defense Line



"THE HIKE HELPED THE SCOUTS BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE HISTORY OF THE JURONG AREA, AS MANY WERE NOT AWARE THAT THERE WERE HISTORICAL SITES RIGHT ON THEIR DOORSTEP!"
-MR KENNETH TAY, SCOUTS TEACHER-IN-CHARGE

UNITING CULTURES



Koishikawa Secondary School Visit

By Shanice Tamilvanan (3E1) & Udhayakumar Karunya (3E1)

On 13 February 2019, students of 3E1 played hosts to our Japanese friends from Koishikawa Secondary Education School. The students welcomed their counterparts with big smiles and loud cheers. Students from both schools were elated to meet one another. After a photo-taking session, they made their way to the AVA room where student representatives from both schools spoke about their school, and provided snap shots of each other's country. To share more about our culture and to get to know our Japanese friends better, our students introduced Singapore's traditional games to them and had a lot of fun in the process.

I like 5 stones the most as it's very fun and engaging. However, I found it difficult to clear the stages as it got tougher and tougher at each level. Despite the difficulty level, I managed to clear the stages with the help of my buddy, Rui Ting.

Yona Yuna, student of Koishikawa Secondary Education School



“

"I thought that we would have difficulties communicating due to the language barrier, but we overcame it with the use of gestures and simple English. We enjoyed each other's company and worked well together to complete our group task."

- Irrny (3E1)

”



FORGING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

The Japanese students enjoyed the traditional games and liked walking around the school. "It's different and big," said Suzuki Masaya about our premises. Not only did they enjoy walking around the school, they also enjoyed their lunch. This is because they have never tasted noodles the way we cook it here. Of course, it was a new experience for them.

Su Su, a student from 3E1, shared that she was nervous at first as it was her first time interacting with someone from Japan. However, she found them approachable and friendly. She said that she definitely enjoyed talking to them and learning new things from them including the focus and priorities of the Japanese national budget.

Mr Andy Lim, teacher-in-charge of the hosting programme, was pleased that the 3E1 students were very prompt and were friendly hosts to our guests. He commended the emcees for putting in a lot of effort to prepare for the visit. He also mentioned that the hosting experience offered the students a learning opportunity beyond what books can offer. The students were glad that they were given the chance to play host.

The class went through some challenges but they overcame them steadily and surely, and made some new Japanese friends.



JVS ANNUAL RUN



HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND

By Gangaraju Vivek (3E2) & Lim Zheng Xiang (3E2)

On 22 February 2019, Jurongville Secondary School gathered as one family, at Jurong Central Park, for the school's Annual Run. Parents and students alike donned their running gear for an end-of-term event that offered both recreation and competition.

JV-nites found the surroundings clean, pleasant and serene. This contributed to a relaxed and carnival-like atmosphere, as parents and students enthusiastically traversed one of two different routes marked out for lower and upper secondary students respectively. While many took the occasion as an opportunity to enjoy a fun and leisurely workout, others blazed through their respective courses to complete the run in very enviable time.



A HEARTY SPIRIT

On that day, members of our uniformed groups volunteered for duties such as water distribution, road marshalling, and first-aid. Abdul Hannan bin Abdul Halim, an NCC member from class 3E2, told us, "I was standing at a three-way junction. People sometimes don't know which way to take to the finish line, so if I was not there, they would not have known which way to take. When runners passed by, we gave them moral support to keep them going by cheering them on."

After the run, the Batucada members put up a wonderful performance for everyone. One of the performers, Nur Amirah Izzati (3E2), told us, "It is important for us to interact with the crowds and to ensure they have a good time. This way, everyone will enjoy themselves and have fun."

The day's event came to a close with a prize presentation ceremony and a speech by our principal, Mr Chan Yew Wooi, who congratulated those in the top fifteen places from each category and celebrated the school's spirit of sportsmanship. He also presented a token of appreciation to the Guest-of-Honour Mr Cheong Yew Wah, Vice-Chairman of the School Advisory Committee (SAC).

As the buzz of energy, zest, laughter and excitement faded away, the Annual Run came to a close, leaving only fond memories in the minds and hearts of students.



"Even though not everyone got a prize, we appreciated the effort put into the event so that we could have a good time."

- Shakir Zufayri Bin Abdul Rashid (3N1)



IT'S ALWAYS BETTER WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER

By Ms Lydia Simon

On 28 February, the staff of Jurongville Secondary School (JVS) gathered for an afternoon of fun and games. Both the teaching and non-teaching staff were split into teams to take part in the station games. In the first round, we played Minute-to-Win-It station games where we would see groups trying to shoot down opponents' tower structures using Nerf guns, or frantically spraying water at balloons to keep them up in the air. It was a great warm-up session for us to get to know our colleagues better and foster better team dynamics.

In the second round, teams moved on to play ball games such as Goal Ball, Kin Ball and Human Foosball. It was a nice change seeing our colleagues in an informal setting, going all out to score for their teams. Teams discussed the different roles each member could play during the games and various strategies that would help them attain victory.

The afternoon was well-spent building stronger relationships amongst the staff of JVS. It was heartwarming seeing all of us united, working together as one.



Throughout the games, it was common to hear colleagues excitedly sharing their innovative strategies and cheering their teammates on.
-Ms Victoria Teo



Movin' to the Beat!

The school's Drumatix Batucada group participated in the Viva O Samba organised by Singapore Management University (SMU) on 2 March 2019 at the SMU Campus Green. The Viva O Samba is a biennial festival hosted by the SMU Samba Masala where SMU's resident percussion band, Samba Masala, and other local Samba bands and dance groups are invited to perform.

The performers had so much of fun that by the end of the evening, they were losing their voices. Playing the drums, the performers learnt the importance of resilience, showmanship, perseverance and mutual support. Their enjoyment of the experience was evident on each of their faces!



Drumatix Batucada

On 15 and 16 February, 20 dancers from the International Dance Club participated in the 47th Chingay Parade with the theme "Dreams Funtasia (Bicentennial Edition)". The parade is an annual iconic event that showcases Singapore's rich multi-ethnic and cosmopolitan cultures.

In preparation for their performance, the dancers devoted many weekends to training sessions, and were a part of the Opening Ceremony and Finale presentations. For many of them, it was their first time performing at the Chingay Festival.

International Dance



Despite the long hours and tiring training, the dancers persevered and encouraged each other to do their best. It is certainly heartening to know that the group is already looking forward to being a part of next year's event!



Playing Like Champions

Our very own JV-nite, Su Ting, Chloe (player no. 12) from 3N2 represented Singapore at the recent UEFA-FAS (Union of European Football Associations - Football Association of Singapore) Under-15 Girls Football Championships. The Singapore team defeated Guam 7-0 (where Chloe scored a goal), Cambodia 1-0 and lost narrowly to Moldova 1-0 in the Final. The team finished the tournament in the second place.



UEFA-FAS U-15 Football

The JVS Tchoukball boys and girls teams performed well at the Inter-School Tchoukball Championships. The 'B' Division Boys won 3rd place while the 'B' Division Girls won 2nd place.

Despite not emerging as champions, the teams learnt many valuable lessons from their experience—not giving up, fighting the good fight, and staying united as a team—all values that are worth even more than the gold medal.



Tchoukball B-Div (Girls)



Tchoukball B-Div (Boys)

A TENACIOUS TRIUMPH

By Mr Kenneth Tay



**National
Football
'B' Div
(Boys)
League 1
Champions!**

On 12 April, students from Jurongville Secondary descended on Jalan Besar Stadium, the home of Singapore football, for the finals of the National School Games Football 'B' Division Championship. Members of our sports CCAs, as well as performers from Drumatix Batucada, gathered in anticipation of an electrifying and adrenaline-fueled final that would put spectators on the edges of their seats.

Our 'B' Division boys had remained undefeated throughout their run in the National School Games. However, it had not been an easy journey. The previous games, especially in the semi-finals, had been hard-won, with injuries afflicting many players. Nevertheless, our boys blazed through all obstacles in their path, defeating last year's runners-up Meridian Secondary 5-4 in the quarter-final, and then prevailing over defending champions Singapore Sports School in the semi-final.

Before the match, professional footballers sent in messages of support, cheering on our boys. Among others, Singapore football legend Fandi Ahmad encouraged them to "play with pride, and play with passion" while Geylang International FC defenders Yuki Ichikawa and Anders Aplin wished them all the best for the most crucial match of the season.

United As One

The game kicked off at 3.30pm in front of a roaring crowd of spectators from both schools. Fiercely contested from the start, the first half saw both teams aggressively vying for possession. While Saint Patrick's School (SPS) clinched an early lead just nine minutes in, we were just as quick to equalise with an elegant run from Muhd Arsyad (3N4) who bypassed the SPS defenders to score our first goal of the game.

Our boys began the second half refreshed and ready. Eventually, in the 56th minute, our football captain, Nur Fazli (4N2), scored the second goal, putting us ahead on the scoreboard at 2-1.

SPS counter-attacked furiously in an attempt to equalise, which resulted in several SPS players receiving yellow cards for a series of rough tackles. Their efforts were eventually rewarded with a header between the JVSS goalposts in the 74th minute.

Tied 2-2 at full time, the game could not have gotten any more intense. With the clock inching forward into injury time, the pressure was evident for both supporters and players as both teams tried and failed to find the winning goal. Finally, with just a few minutes remaining on the clock, a deflected shot on target from Mohd Ryan Nifail (4NA) rebounded off the crossbar and was quickly pounced on by Muhd Arsyad, who then slammed it into the back of the net to win us the 'B' Division title.



Speaking at a pre-match interview, Mr Zaman, Head of Department of PE, mentioned how united the team has been, which no doubt played a part in their victory over SPS. Also mentioned was the rigorous training schedule the boys underwent, which entailed three training sessions a week as well as practice matches against numerous opponents, both locally and overseas in Kuala Lumpur.

When asked about the match, 'B' Division captain Nur Fazli emphasised the contributions of every member of the team towards the win. He particularly praised those who came onto the field as substitutes, saying that they "made a difference" towards the outcome of the match. He also expressed gratitude to the crowd of spectators from JVSS who had gathered to cheer the team on.

**Man of the Match:
Muhd Arsyad (3N4)**



Advice from Your Seniors

By Mrs Emilline Tan

“Believe in Yourself”



A. S. Harendran
Aerospace Electronics
Singapore Polytechnic



Johnathan Yip
Aeronautical Engineering
Singapore Polytechnic

When A. S. Harendran took his O-level examinations for the second time, he was very focused. Having set his sights on taking up Aerospace Electronics at Singapore Polytechnic, he told himself that he must study hard and make it into the course; that he just had to do it. So he did. Harendran received an LIR4 score of 11 for English and four relevant subjects, including four distinctions, making him one of the school's top students.

Harendran shared that after his first attempt at the O-level examinations, Mr Ang Ghim Chee, his Additional Mathematics teacher, encouraged him to re-take the national examinations. With support from his teachers and his family, he became more disciplined by revising his work every day and persevering to the end.

Harendran, who was a National Police Cadet Corps staff sergeant in school, also won the coveted Best Unit Cadet in 2017 for his outstanding contribution to the unit. His advice to his juniors? "Don't enjoy (yourself) too much, (you need to) focus on your work too."

Johnathan Yip counts himself lucky to have a supportive group of friends to study with and motivate one another throughout his secondary school life. The boys studied together in the library after school and played basketball regularly during recess.

Johnathan remembers with fondness how Mrs Heidi Lee, his Science teacher, patiently coached the class and was very encouraging. Her efforts made an impact on the entire class and Johnathan ended up scoring an A1 for Combined Science. He received an LIR4 score of 14 for English and four relevant subjects, including two distinctions, making him one of the top scorers in Class 5N1.

Now, Johnathan is studying Aeronautical Engineering at Singapore Polytechnic, an industry he has wanted to be a part of since young. His advice to his juniors? "Focus on the goals you have set. Don't listen to others (especially) when they say you can't do something."

JVS PUBLICATION TEAM



First row (from the left): Nurul Badrina Bte Hamizan (3E2), Jaiaiswarya Lakshmi Suriyah (2E2), Wong Jun Yuan (2E1), Ruth Martinez Villegas (2E3), Udhayakumar Karunya (3E1), Ng Choi Yin (3E1), Shanice Tamilvanan (3E1)

Second row (from the left): Eng Li Yan (3N2), Sandi Noe Noe Htet (2E1), Ang Wei Xiang (2E1), Keerthana D/O Mutharasu (2E2), Tang Xuan Tong (2E3), Lim Zheng Xiang (3E2), Gangaraju Vivek (3E2)



From left to right: Mr Kenneth Tay, Ms Lydia Simon, Ms Pasiyah Diah & Mrs Emilline Tan

Newsletter images and templates by: Canva.com

Copyright © 2019 Jurongville Secondary School
All rights reserved. No part of this newsletter should be reproduced or
used in any manner without permission of the copyright owner.