

# XINMINSS NEWSLETTER

Moments that Motivate Us



@xinminss



Xinmin Secondary School  
Leading Hearts, Leading Minds

Term 4 2025

#ICYMI

## 2025 NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

On 8 August 2025, our school burst into a sea of red and white as students and staff came together to commemorate Singapore's 60th National Day. This year, we were honoured to welcome our Guest of Honour, Director-General of Education, Mdm Liew Wei Li, who joined us in marking this special occasion. Mdm Liew had served as our school's 9<sup>th</sup> Principal from 2007 to 2010. The morning kicked off with the National Day Parade, a cornerstone of our National Day celebrations. The parade contingent featured our various uniformed groups, student leaders, staff, and the School Advisory Committee members. Leaders from the National Cadet Corps (Land) and the Girls' Brigade served as the flag party commander and parade commander respectively.



Students across all levels then continued the celebration with a range of activities. The lower secondary levels were encouraged to appreciate, reflect, and envision the Singapore of tomorrow through a curated CCE lesson. Through the NRIC Presentation Ceremony, our Sec 3 cohort took part in a meaningful rite of passage marking their journey towards becoming active Singapore citizens. Meanwhile, the Sec 4 students gained key insights into National Service through a talk by our alumnus, Mr Tng Zi Qiang Jake.

The celebration then saw the school gather once again for lively performances by both students and staff. Most notably, Mdm Liew delivered an inspiring speech that encouraged our students to be the leaders who will shape Singapore's future. National Day is more than just a celebration. It serves as a poignant reminder of what makes us proud to be Singaporeans – our resilience, unity, and shared dreams for the future.





## THE WAY WE LEARN @XMS!



### Artist-in-School (Drama)

In Term 4, the Sec 3 Drama students engaged in an in-depth exploration of Longsword techniques, focusing on the integration of movement and narrative in order to develop their own original performance work.

As part of the Artist-in-School Scheme, students participated in masterclasses conducted by resident artist Mr. Muhammad Yazid Bin Abdul Jalil. These sessions introduced them to the intersection of Longsword Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) and theatre devising. Students were encouraged to refine their physical vocabulary and apply HEMA-inspired movement principles in order to create cohesive, collaborative, and expressive drama pieces. The combination of drama and combat sparring was certainly an eye-opener for many!

### Reflections on Artist-in-School

"Taking part in the European Martial Arts sessions was both exciting and eye-opening. We learned skills I had never even considered before, and it was fascinating to see how they could be applied to our drama work. Sparring was definitely the most memorable part — it gave us a way to release energy, step out of our comfort zones, and approach performance from a completely different angle. Connecting the Laban method of acting with combat techniques really helped me understand movement more deeply, and made me feel more confident exploring unfamiliar territory on stage."

Farhan bin Baharudin, 307

"Participating in 3–4 martial arts lessons was something I never expected when I chose this subject, but I have absolutely no regrets. We were introduced to different forms of sparring and movement, and learned how to incorporate martial arts techniques into our acting. My favourite part was sparring with classmates using rubber swords while suited up in protective gear—it truly felt like being on a film set! The experience opened my eyes to a completely new art form and enriched my drama learning by allowing me to explore something different and deepen my understanding of the subject. It also helped me develop greater physical awareness, coordination, and stage presence. Learning to move with intention and control made my acting more expressive and dynamic. I am really grateful for the opportunity."

Er Yi Fei, Kira, 305



## 2025 XINMIN ROYALE

The last week of Term 3 was a memorable one as our student leaders took charge of Xinmin Royale. Organised as part of the school's 80th anniversary celebration, the event was designed to strengthen bonds among students from different CCAs and to nurture school spirit and unity within our vibrant community.

Throughout Xinmin Royale, students worked closely within their CCAs and challenged themselves at a variety of engaging stations. Our newly appointed Sec 3 CCA leaders stepped up confidently as station masters, creating meaningful games and activities for their juniors. These ranged from physically demanding challenges like dodgeball and a CPR relay, to intellectually stimulating ones such as trivia quizzes, archery, and even LimNote (a creative blend of limbo and music note recognition).

The graduating cohort also enjoyed a lively line-up of carnival-style games that added fun and excitement to the celebrations. From high-energy activities such as human foosball, dart soccer, and archery tag, to more relaxed yet engaging options like mini golf and classic board games, there was something for everyone to enjoy. These activities provided the graduating students with a chance to unwind, bond with their peers, and create lasting memories as they gradually wrapped up their secondary school journey.

The energy and enthusiasm displayed by students and leaders alike made Xinmin Royale a resounding success. More than just a series of games, the event was a celebration of teamwork, resilience, and creativity.





## RACIAL HARMONY DAY



SUBSCRIBE

This year's Racial Harmony Day sparked meaningful conversations on current issues as we continue to navigate Singapore's rich and diverse tapestry. Throughout the week, CCE lessons deepened students' appreciation of our nation's racial and ethnic vibrancy by encouraging them to reflect on how each of us contributes to harmony in everyday life.

For our lower secondary students, the programme focused on recognising and addressing casual racism. Through the dramatisation of seemingly harmless everyday scenarios, Sec 1 and Sec 2 students explored how unkind words or actions can impact others. These activities prompted them to think critically about their daily interactions and to consider how kindness and respect can prevent casual racism. Meanwhile, the upper secondary students engaged in a lively panel discussion with staff members on the same theme. This dialogue gave students the opportunity to pose thought-provoking questions and share personal perspectives, deepening their understanding of the importance of mutual respect in fostering inclusivity.

Like threads woven into a tapestry, each representing our unique identities, traditions, beliefs, and practices, we complement one another when we come together. Racial Harmony Day reminds us that Singapore's strength truly lies in our unity and our commitment to living harmoniously.



SUBSCRIBE

## ALL STAFF DAY

Staff and students came together joyfully to celebrate All Staff Day (ASD) this year, beginning with class parties organised by the various class committees. Guided by the Student Leadership Team, the committees planned engaging activities that allowed students to learn more about the staff in school. Laughter and excitement filled the classrooms as many were surprised to discover fun facts about the teachers they interact with every day. Our school leaders also joined in the festivities, visiting some classes and adding to the celebratory spirit.

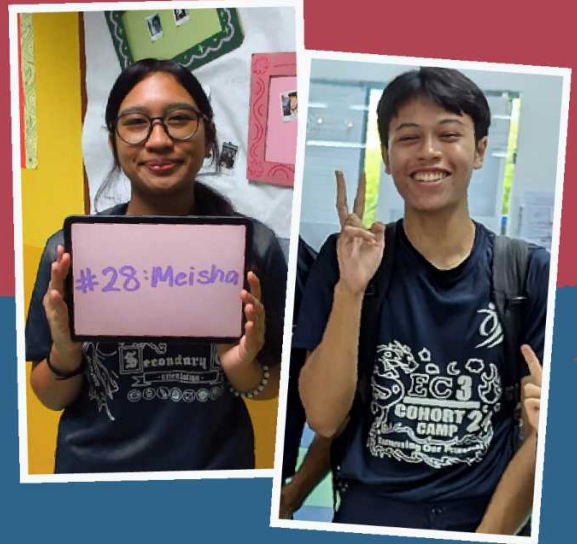
The celebration continued in the school hall, where students paid tribute to the General Office staff, Operations Support Officers (OSOs), and security guards. Together with teachers, these individuals play vital roles in ensuring the school runs smoothly and remains a safe and supportive environment for all. The day culminated in a showcase of talent, with spirited performances by the school choir and various dance groups. Both staff and students were treated to a morning of music, energy, and appreciation, making it a truly memorable occasion. ASD is ultimately a reminder of the importance of gratitude, to recognize and value the many individuals who allow our students to learn and thrive each day.





## VOICES OF XINMIN - OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS

MEISHA LEXIS CASTILLO ESTOCAPIO (403)  
& MUHAMMAD ARJUNA BIN SUHAIMI (405)



### *What is one memory from your time in this school that you will never forget, and why?*

Meisha: During the 2024 Overseas Service Learning trip, on the way to the city, I was in a van with my reflection group and our teacher, Mr Elias Loo. What I thought would be a quiet ride became one of my fondest memories of the trip. I opened up and connected with people I had never spoken to in school before, and we quickly fell into easy, comfortable conversations. By the end, I felt I had gotten to know everyone, including Mr Loo, so much better.

Arjuna: An unforgettable memory I have made in Xinmin would be my Secondary 1 orientation. As a newly graduated Primary 6 student, I was extremely anxious; the foreign environment, culture shock, and new faces were overwhelming. However, through the orientation, I got to bond with new friends and familiarise myself with the school and its culture. This pivotal experience set the foundation for my friendships and subsequent experiences in Xinmin!

### *Who or what in school made the biggest difference in your journey, and how?*

Meisha: Ms Gwyneth Chua has been my form teacher throughout my four years in Xinmin, and she has shaped me not just as a student, but as a person. When I was on the verge of burnout, she taught me the importance of recognising my limits, and not pushing beyond what I could handle. With her guidance, I also learned to rely on my peers and open up when I needed help, instead of carrying everything alone. These lessons made me more resilient, balanced, and confident, helping me grow into not only a better leader but also a stronger individual.

Arjuna: Teachers. No matter how big or small their impact was, Xinmin teachers have made a profound impact on my life. Above and beyond academics, they have been a guiding hand nurturing my maturation into a young adult. Through the best and the worst of times, their persistent support and patience has uplifted me.

### *What advice would you give to your juniors who are still in school?*

Meisha: Everything is going to be okay. If it is not, then it is not over yet!

Arjuna: From projects to examinations, competitions to performances - secondary school is an awfully eventful and exciting experience. However, as we grow and mature in such hectic environments, we may often find ourselves lost in the noise. Thus, my advice is to forever hold true to yourself so you never lose sight of your journey and goals.



## VOICES OF THE YOUTH

ARTICLES WRITTEN BY OUR VERY OWN XINMIN STUDENTS

### The Colours of Connection BY ZOE TAIR YUN XIN - 101



One of the most transformative moments I experienced at Xinmin was attending my first Values-in-Action (VIA) project as a Secondary One student. Initially, I viewed it as just another school requirement - a task to check off, rather than something meaningful. However, when my class arrived at the project location, it felt familiar, akin to my previous VIA experiences in primary school.

We were tasked with connecting with the elderly residents while helping them colour templates created by our classmates. I was paired with a lovely lady, Auntie Xie. "Hi! How are you?" she greeted me with a warm smile. Her genuine interest in my well-being put me at ease. As we coloured together, she shared stories from her youth, her school, and her family background. Our conversation felt natural and comforting.

Soon, I realised that Auntie Xie was not just another elderly individual at a senior day care centre; she was a person with rich life experiences and valuable insights. This encounter reshaped my view of community service. It became clear to me that it was not merely about fulfilling a requirement or completing a task; it was about building meaningful connections and contributing to the happiness of others.

That day, I truly understood the essence of Xinmin's Values-in-Action programme. It was to foster compassion in every student, including myself. This transformative moment inspired me to approach future community service opportunities with empathy and a genuine desire to create a positive impact.





# WELL-WISHES FOR OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS



Dear Sec 4 and 5 Graduates,



I'm truly grateful for all your hard work and the support you have given me. A special thank you to my PCs and tribe leader for being there with me since day one. You have inspired me more than you know. Wishing all of you the very best for your national exams and the exciting journey ahead!!

-Jamelia, 103

Dear Sec 4s and 5s,

🎉🎉🎉 Congratulations on reaching this milestone! Thank you for inspiring us with your hard work, perseverance, and spirit. As you step into the next chapter of your journey, never forget the friendships and memories made in Xinmin as you keep chasing your dreams with courage, and know that we will always be cheering you on! Wishing you guys all the best for your future ahead!! :D

Dear Graduates,

Don't forget that graduation is not an ending but a start. All those years you've spent learning, growing, and overcoming challenges have shaped you into resilient individuals ready to take on whatever comes next.

The road ahead may not always be smooth, but every obstacle will give you the chance to discover your strength, every setback will teach you something new, and every success will remind you of your hard work and determination.

Carry with you the friendships, values, and knowledge you've gained in Xinmin Secondary. Always be thankful for the people who supported you along the way. Step forward with courage and never stop chasing your dreams. Remember everyone is capable in their own ways no matter how big or small.

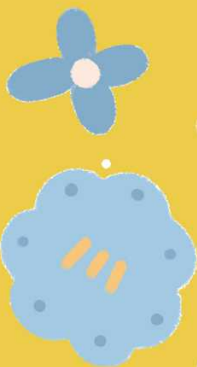
Congratulations! You've officially leveled up, go forth for your next adventure!

-Ivan Mathew, 108



I hope all of your hard work pays off and that you achieve your goals of getting into your desired institutions! Remember that this is just the beginning of an exciting journey. Stay determined and believe in yourselves!

-Zheng Hong, 207



Farewell Sec 4s and 5s!  
I wish you all the best of luck for your exams.  
We will miss all of you!

-Kyle Lin, 106



🌸 Hi everyone! 🌸

Just wanted to drop a little message to say all the best, you're doing amazing! School can be tough sometimes, but don't forget that it's okay to not be okay, take care of yourself, and lean on your friends when you need to. :)

You've got this! 💙🌟



-Hanako, 104



# COMING UP!



## TERM 4

| Week   | Programme                                                           | Date(s)               | Levels     |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Week 1 | CCA Stand Down                                                      | 15 Sep                | Sec 1 to 3 |
|        | MTL Oral Exams                                                      | 15 - 23 Sep           | Sec 3      |
|        | GCE N-Level Part 1                                                  | 15 - 25 Sep           | Sec 4      |
|        | GCE N-Level Listening Comprehension                                 | 16 Sep                | Sec 4      |
|        | Graduation Ceremony                                                 | 19 Sep                | Sec 4 & 5  |
| Week 2 | End-of-Year Exams                                                   | 25 Sep - 9 Oct        | Sec 1 to 3 |
|        | Last Day of School for Classes 401-405 and 501                      | 26 Sep                | Sec 4 & 5  |
|        | Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration                                     | 26 Sep                | All Levels |
| Week 3 | GCE O-Level Science Practical                                       | 1 - 14 Oct            | Sec 4 & 5  |
| Week 4 | GCE N-Level Part 2                                                  | 6 - 14 Oct            | Sec 4      |
|        | GCE O-Level Listening Comprehension                                 | 8 Oct                 | Sec 4 & 5  |
|        | MTL Oral Exams                                                      | 8 - 9 Oct             | Sec 2      |
|        | Marking Day (No school)                                             | 10 Oct                | Sec 1 to 3 |
| Week 5 | CCA Resumes                                                         | 13 Oct                | Sec 1 to 3 |
|        | GCE O-Level Written Exams                                           | 16 Oct - 10 Nov       | Sec 4 & 5  |
|        | XCUBE II                                                            | 17 - 24 Oct           | Sec 1 to 3 |
| Week 6 | Results Processing Day (No school)<br>Sec 3 Job Shadowing Programme | 21 Oct<br>22 - 23 Oct | Sec 1 to 3 |

FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR,  
CLICK ON THE LINK OR SCAN

## CALENDAR HERE!



# COMING UP!



## TERM 4

| Week    | Programme                                    | Date(s)        | Levels            |
|---------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Week 6  | Sec 3 Guidance Programme                     | 23 - 24 Oct    | Sec 3             |
|         | Volleyball Bicultural & Sports Exchange Trip | 24 - 29 Oct    | Selected students |
|         | Last Day of School                           | 24 Oct         | Sec 1 to 3        |
| Week 7  | Sec 3 Supplementary Lessons                  | 27 - 31 Oct    | Selected Sec 3    |
|         | Kaleidoscope II                              | 1 Nov          | Selected students |
| Week 8  | Xinmin 80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner   | 9 Nov          | Selected students |
|         | Overseas Service Learning                    | 9 - 18 Nov     | Selected students |
| Week 9  | MTL Bicultural Overseas Trip                 | 10 - 18 Nov    | Selected students |
|         | Graduation Night                             | 13 Nov         | Sec 4 & 5         |
|         | Open House 2025                              | 15 Nov         | Selected students |
| Week 10 | Leadership Adventure Camp                    | 20 - 22 Nov    | Selected students |
|         | Boys' Brigade Trip to Hong Kong              | 20 - 23 Nov    | Selected students |
|         | Year-End School Vacation                     | 22 Nov onwards | All Levels        |

# OPEN HOUSE

15 November 2025

Saturday, 0830 - 1230

Celebrate 80 years of nurturing future generations with us!

**新民中學**  
**XINMIN SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
 精益求精 殷勤為眾 Strive · Excel · Serve