



54th Commendation Day and Official Opening of the Indoor Sports Hall



Our partners in education



Student's artwork for our GOH



Welcome by the CCA groups



The roaring NTSS Cheer

New Town Secondary School celebrated its 54th Commendation Day together with the official opening of the Indoor Sports Hall on 18 April 2019.

The theme for this year's celebration was 'Engaging Our Youth' and it reflected MOE's focus on nurturing the joy of learning. The opening of our much-awaited Indoor Sports Hall (ISH) signified the importance of balance in developing students in cognitive, physical and social-emotional domains.

We were honoured to have an alumni return to the school as the Guest-of-Honour (GOH) for the event. Associate Professor Asher Lim, together with the Chairman of the School Advisory Committee, Vice-President of the New Town Alumni, Chairperson of the Parent Support Group and W1 Cluster Superintendent officiated the opening of the Indoor Sports Hall. To welcome these important guests, CCA leaders lined the route to the Sports Hall,

displaying equipment unique to their CCA while the Peer Support Leaders gave them a rousing welcome with the NTSS cheer. To symbolise the opening of the ISH, the distinguished guests made well-aimed shots at a goal post and signed on a basketball, which would be kept in the time-capsule to commemorate the official opening.

The Commendation Day programme started with a video showcasing the holistic development of students. The GOH gave an inspiring speech on not giving up in the face of adversity, urging New Towners to strive on and do their best. Students then received the awards for their achievements in various academic and non-academic domains.

The school Concert Band, Ethnic Fusion Dance Troupe, Guzheng Ensemble and other talented New Towners performed for the audience, and their upbeat and cheerful pieces were well received.

Learning for Life Programme -

Community and Youth Leadership



2019/2020 CCA Leaders at the Student Leaders Investiture



Peer Support Leaders reciting their pledge during the Student Leaders' Investiture

'Developing Confident and Compassionate Student Leaders to Lead, Serve and Excel' has always been the vision for the Student Leaders of our school.

On 23 January 2019, the Class Committee Leaders, Student Councillors (SC) and Peer Support Leaders (PSL) underwent a school-wide student leadership training to hone their respective leadership competencies and skill sets to serve the school better.

Subsequently, on 17 April 2019, the school recognised the CCA Leaders, SC and PSL during the Student Leaders Investiture.

The outgoing Secondary Four Student Leaders passed on the baton of leadership to the Secondary Three Student Leaders. It was a proud and unforgettable moment for many as they pledged to lead their peers by example and to do their best.

Applied Learning Programme -

Developing Critical and Inventive Thinkers through Visual Communication

During their Art lessons in Term 1, all Secondary Two students participated in a basic animation workshop as part of the Tier I Applied Learning Programme. During this seven-week workshop, students explored and learnt techniques that could be used in the production of a short stop-motion animation video. Collaborating in groups, they blended their drawing skills and the new techniques learnt to produce a creative video of the school song.

On 17 April 2019, a group of students went on a learning journey to a video production company, Big 3 Media, to learn about the behind-the-scenes experiences in the daily life of a creative professional. Through this session, students had a better insight into the creative processes involved and the careers available in such industries.

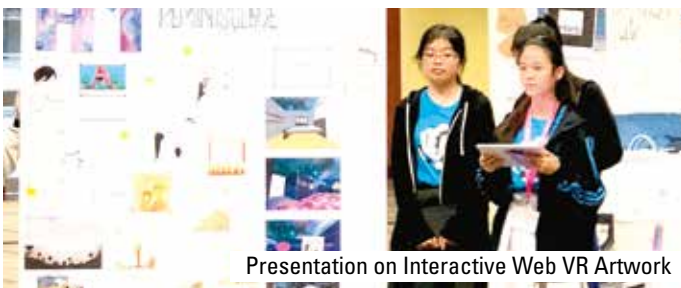


Crafting an animation video.



Working collaboratively

Enhanced Art Programme



Presentation on Interactive Web VR Artwork

Incubation Lab Enhanced Art Programme

Our Enhanced Art Programme (EAP) students joined students from eight other EAP schools in the Incubation Lab Enhanced Art Programme from 12 to 15 November 2018. The students were exposed to art forms such as Fashion and Textiles, 2D Platformer Game, Interactive Web VR Experience and Community Arts, and had the opportunity to work with established art practitioners and like-minded peers from the EAP community.

EAP Masterclass 1

In 2019, we introduced a series of masterclasses as a learning platform for our Secondary Three EAP students. Local artist, Ms Sandhya Wadhvani, who specialises in using palette knife as a tool to create her artworks, conducted the first session. Our students enjoyed exploring the tool and were excited at seeing the possibilities of oil as a painting medium.



Demonstrating the use of palette knife by an artist

GCE 'N' and 'O' Level Examinations Release of Results

Congratulations to Newtowners for their outstanding academic results in the 2018 GCE 'N' and 'O' Level Examinations!



Secondary Four Express and Five Normal Academic Students with Outstanding Results



Secondary Four Normal Academic Students with Outstanding Results

Welcoming the Secondary One Students

We welcomed our new Secondary One students to the start of their secondary school life. The Orientation Programme was filled with exciting activities to immerse the new students in the New Town family. The Student Leaders organised team building games and a school tour for the students. The Form Teachers were also involved and got to know the students better through class bonding sessions.

The students learnt about the School's vision, mission and values as well as school rules and regulations. They were introduced to the various Co Curricular Activities offered by the school. In addition, they had the opportunity to be involved in the Uniformed Group Engagement Programme, Sports Try-Out and Performing Arts Introduction Sessions.



Enjoying the activities at the NPCC booth



Our Student Leaders getting ready to start the orientation activities

Here are what some of our Secondary One Newtowners said about the Orientation Programme:

Amelia Indra'shika Putri (1E1): "The activities were enjoyable and we bonded with our new classmates. I am happy as I made many new friends".

Gavin Tan Jun Wei (1E2): "I got to know my classmates well and we became more united as a class. The games organised by the student leaders were fun and engaging".

Ethel Chua (1E4): "I enjoyed the games and learned more about the school. Our class spirit was better after the orientation".

Liew Xinyi Eunice (1N6): "The programme was interesting and we learnt how to solve problems through games".



Solving a problem through group activity

Chinese New Year Celebrations

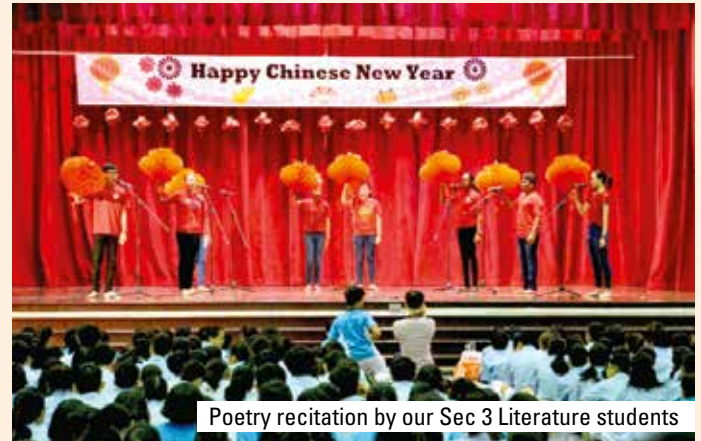
Staff and students of New Town Secondary School ushered in the Year of the Pig with our annual Chinese New Year concert which took place on 4 February 2019. The excitement began much earlier with beautiful festive decorations put up around the school, which was a dedicated effort by our Parent Support Group.

On the day of the celebration, staff came in different hues of red and the traditions of the festival were brought to

life through music and song. Our Guzheng Ensemble commenced the show with a splendid performance, followed by a poetry recitation and a clap and sing-along session of Chinese New Year songs. In addition, the audience was thrilled by the Face-Changing show which was performed by Mr Jimmy Lim, our very own New Town Alumni. The programme then concluded with the popular music video featuring the staff.



Our Music Teachers leading the Sing-Along session



Poetry recitation by our Sec 3 Literature students

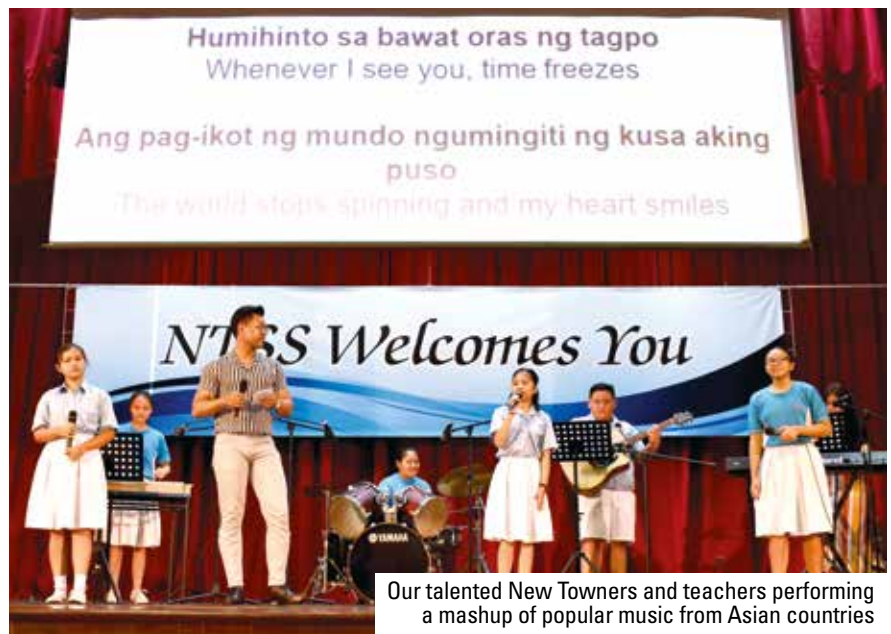
International Friendship Day



Our teacher and NE Ambassadors sharing about the important role that foreigners play in our society



Sharing on Singapore's diplomatic ties with neighbouring countries



Our talented New Towners and teachers performing a mashup of popular music from Asian countries

In our commemoration of International Friendship Day, New Towners led an assembly programme which emphasised the importance of building connected communities.

National Education (NE) Ambassadors kick-started the programme with a discussion on the important role that foreigners play in our society. Students from Vietnam, Indonesia and China then shared about the rich culture and unique music from their home countries, before the

session concluded with a performance of popular music from Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, South Korea and Singapore. Guo Zhirui (3E2) shared, "we should learn more about other cultures, discover their beauty and respect them". In addition, the Character and Citizenship Education package challenged students to consider Singaporeans' interactions with foreigners, and craft poems to express their desire to have a more inclusive attitude towards foreigners.

Total Defence Commemoration



Our Total Defence Superheroes



Together We Keep Singapore Strong

Our school commemorated Total Defence in February 2019. In line with this year's theme 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong', our Secondary Four NE Ambassadors, together with the NPCC Unit and a Humanities teacher, put up a skit during the school assembly. They took on roles as Total Defence Superheroes to illustrate the significance of Military Defence, Civil Defence, Economic Defence, Social Defence, Psychological Defence and Digital Defence.

To reinforce the importance of Digital Defence, a National Education Ambassador Garry Gurrshyn Pal Singh (4E3)

also delivered a Morning Inspiration to share how fake news poses a threat to national security and tips to discern fake news.

Our students were also reminded through a Total Defence Day message on the need to step up and play their part to keep Singapore strong and prospering. Sean Ow Zhan Rong (4E2) said, "I have learnt that as we progress towards becoming a smart nation, Digital Defence has become essential to protect our society from social discord".

Preparing for Emergencies

As part of emergency preparedness, the school conducted a lock down drill and evacuation exercise on 11 March 2019. The emergency exercise started with the relay of a coded message through the PA system to inform everyone that the lock-down drill had been activated.

During the drill, the students followed the procedures that they had been briefed on. Nicole Ng (3E3) shared this: "When we heard the announcement, all of us knew what to do. We immediately locked the doors, closed the windows, turned off all the fans and lights and stayed out of sight from potential intruders."

Following the Lock Down Drill, there was an evacuation to a holding site to practise the routes and procedures. The

school's emergency teams were activated to test their operational readiness through the different scenarios of missing, injured and traumatised students.

Wong Cze Wei, Zovy (4E3) reflected on the exercise, "I have learnt about the procedures we need to follow in the event of an emergency situation and it has increased our safety and security awareness".

The exercise has prepared the school to respond swiftly to emergency situations and has reinforced the importance of National Defence.



Students turning off the fans and lights and closing the windows during the Lock Down Drill



The First Aid Post teachers responding swiftly to a simulated casualty

Cross-Country

The Annual Cross-Country was held at the West Coast Park on 5 April 2019. Despite the rainy days prior to the event, we were fortunate to have very good weather for the run. The students were looking forward to the event, especially the Secondary One students who took part in their first Cross-Country at NTSS.

The event started with a K-Pop warm up, led by the Parent Support Group, followed by the races for the different levels.

Congratulations to the following Champion Classes:

Secondary One - 1E2

Secondary Two - 2E3

Secondary Three - 3E2

Secondary Four and Five - 4E1

In the CCA Challenge, the Basketball Girls was the Champion team whilst the Football Boys retained the Championship trophy for the second year running.

The Parents Support Group organised various games for the students, set up a photo booth and provided drinks and food for the participants.

First time participant Yeap Yik Rui (1E2) was glad that "the Cross-Country helped to bond the class together and created fond memories amongst friends".

Azza Zhafira (3E4) from Basketball Girls said, "The team trained hard and I encouraged them to be resilient. We were in high spirit and determined to get the Championship Trophy".

Muhammad Amirul Ezad (4E4) from the Football Club explained how they achieved their success, "We started training four months before the event. We faced stiff competition during the race from the other CCA groups. It was tough but our hard work paid off."



The start of the Secondary 3 Girls Race



PSG leading the students in the K-Pop Dance



Finally made it to the Finishing Point!

Design & Technology Enrichment



Forming the shape of the coin box



Completed coin box

On 27 March 2019, a Design and Technology (D&T) Workshop was organised for the Secondary Three D&T students. The programme revealed to the students the machines and tools beyond their curriculum so that they could improve their proficiency and confidence in machining skills. The workshop was enriching as the

students were amazed that they could make an innovative duck-shaped coin box using new machines such as the router and hot plate ovens. Muhammad Aderi (3N6) said, "Using the router made it so much easier than before to make our artefacts!"

Learning Beyond the Classroom



A lesson on map navigation.



Studying land use of Harbourfront Centre.

In February 2019, our Geography teachers led our Secondary One and Four students to conduct geographical investigations (GI) at Sungei Ulu Pandan and Harbourfront Centre respectively.

An inquiry based approach was used to develop in our students the ability to make independent observations, reasoned judgment and to practise reflective thinking. Using water test kits, the Secondary One students tested the water in the river for water clarity, pH level and

dissolved oxygen. They also made observations around the river to validate their hypothesis that the surroundings affect the water quality. The Secondary Four students did a tourism study at Harbourfront Centre by conducting traffic count and doing a land use survey.

He Yu Xiang (4E1) affirmed, "GI is a hands-on and self-directed session and I appreciate the exposure to real life learning that I got." Indeed, outdoor education has provided opportunities that cannot be replicated in a classroom.

Training for ICT Ambassadors

All ICT Ambassadors were trained during the school-wide leadership training on 23 January 2019. During the session, the ICT Ambassadors were briefed on their responsibilities. This was followed by a hands-on session which equipped them with the necessary skills to perform their duties well.

To ensure that the ICT Ambassadors could also take on the role of Facilities Representatives, they were trained on the proper communication channels to report faults in classroom equipment besides providing ICT assistance to their teachers.

Working together with the Media and Communications Club, the ICT Ambassadors were also tasked to be involved in the photography of level-wide events and activities.

The training ended with a hands-on photography session around the school, where senior ICT Ambassadors mentored their juniors on photography skills. Overall, the session gave everyone the opportunity to improve their photography skills.



Learning how to set up ICT equipment



Learning their enhanced roles and responsibilities

Appreciating Our Non-teaching Staff



The completed 'lollipop'



A gift for our unsung hero!



Creating a simple gift from an everyday item – a towel



A gift from CCE Reps

On 23 January 2019, the Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) Representatives attended the school-wide leadership training. Apart from being trained on leadership duties, the training for CCE Representatives had a different element – a hands-on activity with a meaningful outcome. At the start of the training, they learnt the need to lead in showing appreciation and gratitude to the people around them. To do so, they were taught how to make beautiful lollipop-shaped gifts using towels. The students then presented the gifts to some non-teaching staff.

"I was truly touched by the unexpected gift," said Office Support Officer (OSO), Mr Hussin.

Our CCE Representatives were feeling it too! Madiva Camilia Mahidi (3E3) mentioned, "It was a simple activity but I was proud to be able to make and present a gift to

them. I felt that their hard work should be recognised." Thank you, CCE Representatives, for lighting up the day of our unsung heroes!



A touching gesture

Oral Communication Workshop

It was two afternoons of rapt listening and conscientious note-taking as the Secondary Four Express and Five Normal Academic students sat through the oral communication enrichment workshop in April 2019.

The aim of the workshop was to hone the students' oracy skills in reading aloud and spoken interaction. Through close guidance and modelled examples, the students learnt how to speak effectively with an awareness of purpose, audience and context. Faced with various visual stimuli, they were able to study the pictures and initiate discussion on diverse social issues.

Marissa Ashley Gan Shiu-Li (4E3) commented, 'This enrichment workshop is definitely relevant for my upcoming 'O' Level Examination. There are many helpful strategies which I can put to use to impress my audience.'

We hope that our students would continue to be self-directed learners, chart their own progress and succeed in their endeavours.



Articulating a well-considered response



Learning how to verbalise thoughts

UTown Mentoring



Making obleck as part of experiential learning



Working with clay to develop their creativity



Visit to the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum

On Saturday mornings in Semester 1 2019, a group of Secondary Four and Five students make their way to Tembusu College, just across the road from New Town, to take part in the UTown Mentoring Programme.

This programme is a partnership between the school and undergraduates from Tembusu College, known as Tmentors. It aims to develop study skills and self-confidence in our students. Under the guidance of their mentors, they

engage in various activities such as academic mentoring and current affairs discussion.

Students also gain from the experiential learning which includes a visit to a museum, hands-on experiments and talks by experts from various industries. At the end of the programme, many of the students have forged an unforgettable bond with their mentors and become confident and resilient learners.

Work Attachment for Students



Interacting with young visitors at the Sentosa Butterfly Park and Insect Kingdom



Listening to Mr Felix Wong, Executive Director, New Life Community Services on the social work industry



Interacting with parrots at the Sentosa Butterfly Park and Insect Kingdom

More than 40 student leaders and Secondary Three students participated in the Student Work Attachment programme during the last two months of 2018. Into its fourth year, the programme aims to provide students with first-hand experience of the working world as well as to provide them the opportunity to learn skills, values and attitudes that will prepare them for their careers upon completion of their formal education.

Students who were interested readily participated in the programme. There were others who were keen to venture out of their comfort zone and try something new. "At first, I had second thoughts about going for this work attachment as I was afraid of animals," said Phebe Goh Suki (4E3).

She went on a two-day work attachment with the Sentosa Butterfly Park and Insect Kingdom and had learnt how to take care of animals like birds and butterflies as well as how to interact with customers. "As time passed, I slowly got comfortable in handling the animals as I had a mentor to guide me."

This year, the school brought in new partners - New Life Community Services and MyGym Pte Ltd. These new partners offered our students a day-long work experience where they got to see first-hand how the helping profession functions. This prepared them for a career in social service. Indeed, our students learnt so much from this programme!

Spoken Word Poetry Enrichment



Learning about poetic devices



Presenting their poem

On 12 March 2019, a Spoken Word Poetry Enrichment workshop was organised for our Secondary One students.

The programme provided students with the opportunity to compose and perform their own poems. The inspirational and energetic team of instructors encouraged the students to use their imagination coupled with poetic devices when crafting their original poems. The students learnt various choral recitation styles as well as a range of theatrical skills.

Such a programme not only garnered the holistic development of the students but also trained them to be confident speakers.

Chia Shan Hua (1E2) was excited about what she had learnt and said, "I liked the workshop as we could develop our presentation skills, something we can use in the classroom and the future."

Enhancing Drama Skills



Watching the performance of the peers



Dramatising a scene



Learning through acting

On 13 March 2019, a Drama Enrichment programme was organised for our Secondary Two students.

The programme inspired and engaged the students as they stepped into the world of theatre. The students worked on dramatising their text, 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'. The programme enabled the students to connect with the performing arts and to develop their creativity and dramatic play.

Apart from encouraging the students to understand the real world through simulated experiences, the programme helped them gain confidence in oral presentation.

Cheang Chu Ning (2E4) found the workshop interesting and said that he could deepen his understanding of the feelings of the characters in the text after attending the workshop.

Learning English Language Creative Writing Skills

All our Secondary Four and Five students were engaged in a Creative Writing Workshop where they learnt about the effective use of imagery to enhance their writing. They also discovered how pictures could be interpreted in different ways and tried using the 'Plus, Minus, Interesting' tool to evaluate pictures.

The workshop culminated with the students creating a mind map on a colour and its symbolism and then writing a creative piece about the colour.

When asked what was worth remembering about the workshop, Sankari Selvaraju (4E1) said that she learnt how to use different types of imagery to create compelling essays.



Presenting the creative writing work.



Sharing their thoughts with classmates

Aesthetics in Mother Tongue Languages



ML students in their costume getting ready for their mini performance

Our annual Mother Tongue Language (MTL) Fortnight was held at the end of Term 1, 2019 with the theme 'Aesthetics in our Language and Culture'.

Our Malay Language students explored the different aspects of Dikir Barat, from the lyrics to the basic hand movements required for the performance. After the coaching session, students were able to put up a mini performance, dressed in their traditional costumes.



TL students engaging in a "think out of the box" activity

"I have learnt that we need to have self-discipline in Dikir Barat to maintain the right sitting posture," said Syirin Binte Izar (3E4).

Our Tamil Language students were introduced to two ancient Tamil art forms known as "Villupaatu" and 'Therukoothu". Pradesh (3E2) reflected that the activities taught him more about his culture and language.



CL students engaging in face-mask painting

The Chinese Language Unit introduced the history of Chinese Opera to the students and involved them in activities such as face-mask painting and playing of the traditional opera instruments. Chloe Leoh (3E1) shared that it was a pleasant experience to be able to paint and draw her own mask and to learn the symbolism behind the different coloured masks.

The fun and interactive learning experiences certainly made the students' day!



The beautiful masks created by the students.

Learning Journey to Ford Factory



Examining the route taken by the Japanese when they invaded Singapore



Engaged students at the Ford Factory

To enable learners to see the link between history and real-world context, the Humanities Department planned a learning journey for the Secondary Two Normal Academic students.

The students have learnt about the Japanese Occupation in the classroom. They embarked on their Historical Investigation project where they went to the Ford Factory to examine the relics from the battle of Singapore.

The learning journey was eye-opening, as students were able to describe the exhibits using concepts learnt in class. These concepts included 'Sook Ching', 'Nipponisation' and food rationing. They also observed the period of political unrest and economic slowdown in Singapore after the war.

Students showed greater appreciation of the peace they have and they recognised that security comes with the willingness to defend Singapore.

Camp Challenge



Synchronizing in Dragon Boating



Embracing the class spirit over the Low Wall



Supporting each other at the Hour Glass Challenge

Journeying through the iconic Sentosa Island, Camp Challenge aimed to facilitate character development through a values-centric and journey-based learning. Students learnt how to overcome physical, mental and social challenges by taking ownership of the planning and decision-making during activities. An intentional incorporation of the Leadership Challenge was made both implicit and explicit through the camp activities.

Over 3 days the Secondary Three students better understood the dynamics of their class and form teachers, fully immersing in the outdoors, engaging in team-bonding and confidence-building activities. The Team Challenge Hourglass, Dragon Boating and Low Wall were ranked as the camp highlights.

Best Female Camper, Alyssa Loh Jin Yuan (3E4) shared, "This new atmosphere and experience not only bonded my friends and me, but gave the opportunity to challenge myself. This award would not have been possible without my classmates."

Best Male Camper, Wong Chao Hao (3E2) summed up the camp aptly, "Remember to put your best foot forward and look out for one another. If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together!"

Ending the camp experience with a bang, our Parents Support Group lent their support to the students' performances. The Secondary Three camp is definitely a memorable experience for any Newtowners.

Financial Literacy Trail

On 14 March 2019, all Secondary Two students attended a Financial Literacy Workshop which was aimed to teach the importance of lifelong learning through a board game.

Designed to provide a window into the world of work, students were introduced to various education and career pathways, economic literacy concepts, income tax and retirement funds. The game encapsulated relevant, up-to-date current affairs and even took students through the impact of different economic cycles.

The workshop was well-received, and one student's takeaway was: "I learnt how to have better financial management, how to solve problems better, and got to know what working in real life would be like."



Playing the board game and finding out about financial literacy at the same time

Education and Career Guidance Fair

The annual Education and Career Guidance (ECG) Fair took place on 12 March 2019. Upper Secondary students had the opportunity to hear from an unprecedented breadth of speakers this year, with guests from 15 different institutions and organisations.

Themed 'Future Ready', the ECG Fair showed students the range of education and career pathways available to them while emphasising the importance of character-building and personal resilience. After the talks by two tertiary institutions, students were free to explore the booths set up by different institutes of higher learning like the polytechnics, Millenia Institute and ITE.

Newtowners then chose from seven different career talks by representatives from industries as diverse as hospitality, aviation and life sciences. Industry representatives included speakers from organisations like Breadtalk, Yang Kee Logistics, The Westin Singapore and Essilor. Among the speakers were alumni of the school Mr. Melvyn Goh Executive Director, Captivate Productions, Mr. Seng Chun



Dr Anna Yeo from Essilor giving an insight into the optometry industry



Our students with speaker from the Westin Singapore



The booths of the various institutes of higher learning provided an opportunity for students to ask questions

Guan Scoot, pilot from Scoot, and Mr. Chan Hsien Hung, General Manager, Yang Kee Logistics.

New Towners participated actively in the ECG Fair, engaging the speakers with questions on career choices, challenges faced while working and qualifications needed to gain entry into specific industries. Many students commented that they found the talks useful and enlightening.

Secondary One Values-In-Action (VIA)

During the Multi-Level Activities week in March 2019, the Secondary One cohort participated in a two-part VIA programme.

The students creatively designed their own recycling boxes in the first session. The hands-on activity gave them the liberty to use a splash of colours to beautify the recycling boxes that are used regularly. Students felt a sense of accomplishment as the boxes they decorated were distributed to the various classrooms in the school.

In the second session, New Towners embarked on a learning journey to the NEWater Visitor Centre. They went through an enriching interactive tour that highlighted the Singapore Water Story. They were educated about the need to achieve a sustainable level of water consumption. The guides also raised awareness about adopting good water saving habits at home.

Overall, our Secondary One students gained valuable knowledge about the importance of having a sense of ownership for recycling efforts and the need to commit and contribute to water efficiency and conservation in Singapore.



Designing a recycling box



Attentively learning about the microfiltration process



Exploring an interactive display

Secondary Four and Five Service Learning Projects (VIA)



Teaching K2 children at My First School Clementi Branch.



Presenting a card and gift bag to the workers at the hawker centre



Performing at the St Andrew's Cathedral Home for the Aged

On 15 March 2019, the Secondary Four and Five students went to various Voluntary Welfare Organisations and engaged the participants through activities and games.

Many students had a chance to be pre-school teachers for a day and found it fulfilling and rewarding to teach the children valuable skills and impart knowledge. Wang Zhong Xin (4E1) remarked that he had "learnt how to engage younger children and ensure their safety" during the activities.

Another group of students from 4E3 went to a hawker centre and invited members of the public to pen down a

note of appreciation to the foreign workers and cleaners in the area. Together with pre-prepared gift bags, students presented the cards to the workers and it brought a big smile on the faces of the recipients.

Values in Action provides learning experiences that support students' development as socially responsible citizens who contribute meaningfully to the community. It places focus on students acquiring values. Tan Shi Wei Germaine (4N6) commented that "the elderly feel happy and we feel the warmth in our hearts" as she interacted and mingled with the elderly.

Learning Journey for Teachers



Focusing on their measurement



Learning Math in a fun way



Feeling contented with their sketches

The 2018 Staff Learning Journey for all teachers was organised on 20 November 2018.

The focus for the year was 'Nurturing the Joy of Learning' with an emphasis on The Singapore Teaching Practice.

All teachers relived their school days by attending one of three lessons – Physics, Social Studies or Mathematics. Many of the teachers had left their secondary school uniform behind more than a decade ago and it was an interesting experience to go back to being a student. Mr Tan Say Pin, the Upper Secondary Year Head, shared that he never knew the physics behind the height of a full-

length mirror until he took part in the Science experiment. After their lessons, teachers gathered to share how they could incorporate some of the strategies learnt in their own lessons.

The afternoon programme consisted of art appreciation and outdoor sketching at the National Gallery, a programme which all Secondary 1 students go through yearly. Here teachers learnt that they could draw, and everyone came back with a sketch of either the iconic Marina Bay Sands, or the historical buildings which could be seen clearly from level six of the gallery.

Learning Journey for Executive and Administrative Staff

Our Executive and Administrative Staff went on an interesting learning journey to Bollywood Veggies on 26 November 2018. The activity was organised to enhance team spirit amongst the support staff and to give them the opportunity to observe how other organisations constantly seek to improve effectiveness and efficiency.

The day's programme started with a hearty breakfast cooked by the experienced team who runs the Poison Ivy Bistro, using mainly produce grown organically within the 10-acre farm.

The tour of the farm was an eye-opening experience and the staff got to know that many leaves from the plants could be eaten raw and were beneficial to health. The heat and humidity did not dampen the spirit of the group as everyone battled it out on the kitchen table, wielding knives and cleavers to chop and shred leafy greens. The results were three plates of brightly coloured 'nasi kerabu'.

The afternoon programme took the staff to another organic farm to understand more about sustainability. This farm made their own compost for fertilising the vegetables and fruit trees. The staff had the opportunity to harvest some mustard green before heading back to Bollywood Veggies for afternoon tea.

CSO, Ms Tina Tay said beamingly, "I enjoyed the visit very much because the trip was informative and it is a place I may never visit on my own because public transport to Bollywood Veggies is rather limited."



It's harvest time!



It's our hand-made product

Workshop for Teachers on Contemporary Issues and Facilitation



Using the 'Thumbs Up' strategy

On 21 Nov 2018, the Contemporary Issues (CI) Core Team led by Ms Rozaina Rusli, HOD Student Welfare and Mr Tan Say Pin, Year Head, Upper Secondary organised a workshop for all teachers on contemporary issues and facilitation strategies in Character and Citizenship Education (CCE). The team conducted micro lessons which they had constructed and carried out earlier during their CCE lessons. The issues discussed included the dangers of racial stereotyping and how it could impact a multi-racial society and the need to build resilience as a nation when responding to current challenges like cyber attacks and fake news.

The team demonstrated the use of facilitation strategies like the 'line continuum' and the 'four corners' which enabled the discussion of multiple perspectives in a safe space.

ICT Training for Teachers

2019 started off with the various departments engaging in the use of ICT through the Departmental ICT Training. One of the main focus areas of the school was the use of ICT to support active teaching and learning and to create lesson packages on the Student Learning Space to better engage our students.

During the training sessions, teachers from the various Departments learnt about different ICT applications and tools. The training included hands-on practice for teachers to use the various ICT tools. The training was customised for every department. Basic recording tools such as Microsoft PowerPoint and more advanced recording tools such as Swivl and even basic drone flying were taught during the session to level up our teachers' ICT competencies.



Learning how to fly the drone during their Departmental ICT Training.

Our New Staff



(Left to right):
 Mr Imarah Bin Abas,
 Mr Samuel Swee,
 Mr Liau Chee Mun,
 Mr Phua Kok Chuan Sky (LH/Math),
 Mr Yap Kim Hon (SH/D&T),
 Mdm Abirami Thavasamuthu,
 Ms Nur Syahirah Bte Nahadi,
 Ms Rafiza Bte Naser,
 Ms Malarvizhi (HOD/EL & Lit)

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