



## Blending Learning Experience in NTSS

As part of MOE's 'Learn for Life' movement and a move to normalise Home-Based Learning (HBL) as a regular feature of school life, NTSS started on the Blended Learning journey in Term 2 and 3, 2021. Teachers designed and implemented lessons which enabled students to learn independently or collaboratively, within or outside of curriculum. The affordances of technology were tapped on to make the lessons engaging and interactive. Through Blended Learning, NTSS students can grow to be self-directed learners who are future-ready and develop dispositions, skills and knowledge to succeed.

During the HBL days, one hour was set aside for Student-Initiated Learning (SIL) activities. These are some of the experiential activities that students engaged in:

### Mathematics

Secondary One students carried out research on fun facts about the subject and presented their findings through a medium of their choice.



▶ Poster on a Mathematical fun fact

### Aesthetics

Secondary Two students had the opportunity to choose between music appreciation and art creation to gain varied experiences. Students were able to visualise musical extracts as part of music appreciation and try their hands at creating unique WhatsApp stickers for art creation.



▶ WhatsApp stickers created by students

### CHAT XIN YU, CALLIOPE

Created on: 04 Aug 2021 09:33 AM

These cupcakes are healthy and interesting as they only use 1/2 cup of sugar and coconut sugar, and also replaced traditional butter with a combination of coconut oil and greek yogurt. They also use many different spices to make a delicious cupcake.



### Food and Consumer Education

Students had the opportunity to act as culinary experts for the day as they critiqued the nutritional and aesthetic properties of cupcakes.

◀ Student critique of a cupcake product

### chemistry pH experiment!



### Science

Secondary Three students recorded videos of Science experiments where they tested the pH value of household items with a homemade red cabbage indicator.

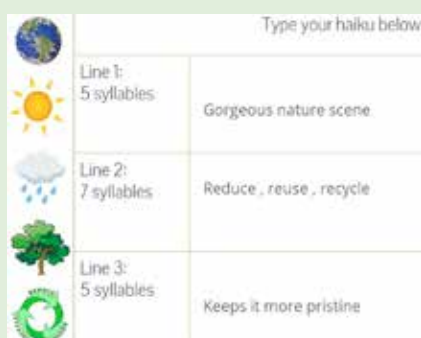
◀ Results of the Science experiment



### Mother Tongue Language

The Upper Secondary Malay Language students used digital tools to create smart phone wallpapers with batik designs. Some of them creatively applied the batik designs on gift envelopes for festive occasions.

◀ Students' batik designs



### Humanities

Students went on a digital learning journey at the Sustainable Singapore Gallery and shared their reflections in the form of a haiku, photograph or prose.

▶ Haiku created after the digital learning journey at SSG

# Learning for Life Programme

In New Town, every student matters. The journey of our Newtowners' efforts in achieving unity in diversity begins with the understanding that we all struggle, and a genuine act of kindness can make a difference and change lives. This was the driving force for our Kindness Week and Kampong Class Bingo Game of 2021.

Our Peer Support Leaders partnered with Singapore Kindness Movement to meaningfully engage the hearts of our students and drive the value of inclusivity through our original song titled 'A Friend Who Cares'. They also led their respective classes in activities such as 'Continue The Comic' and the 'Puzzle Pledge'.

While bringing back the kampong spirit in every class, the Kampong Class Bingo Game also served to enliven and empower our Secondary One and Three students to come together as a class despite their differences.

"We appreciate how the Kampong Class Bingo has worked in the hearts of our classmates!" said Jazlyn (1E4). "Together as one family, we will continue to grow with an appreciative heart seeking progress and change!"



Working together during New Town Kindness Day



Peer Support Leaders with their class Puzzle Pledge

## Applied Learning Programme

This year, two photography competitions were held in conjunction with Earth Day and National Day Commemoration. The competitions aimed to provide a platform for students to apply the knowledge and skills learnt during the Applied Learning Programme (ALP).

A product and portrait photography workshop was also held in Term 3 this year. A photography studio was set up in the ALP Room for students to learn about light and shadow, and how these affected the images. They also worked in groups to take on the roles of both the director and model, and experimented with angles and lighting to capture images that reflected their intent.



Exploring portrait photography with the studio setup



Making use of the ring light to enhance product image

## Enhanced Art Programme

Our students had the opportunity to learn tips on video production and editing from pathfinder and alumnus, Mr Melvyn Goh who is the Executive Producer and Editor of Captivate Production.

This masterclass was conducted via Zoom and our students had an engaging question and answer session over an online noticeboard tool, Padlet.



Getting ready to film their art-making process

The participants applied their learning from the masterclass to their own art-making tutorial for the West 1 Online Exhibition Website. They worked in groups to plan and create the art activity of their choice while taking into consideration their target audience, time required to complete the activity, as well as lighting and composition theories.



Learning some video editing tips



Recording the tie-dyeing process



# Gearing Up For Exams

To help Newtowners better prepare for their tests and examinations, all students participated in the Gearing Up for Exams programme on 14 July 2021. Through a series of activities, students learnt what they could do to beat exam anxiety and stay positive in the face of challenges.

Newtowners watched a video of teachers sharing their experiences in overcoming examination anxiety when they were students. They learnt that exam anxiety is normal and while many may have experienced it, they have also managed it with various strategies.

Students then played a memory game which reinforced the message that it is important to start preparing for their examinations early, as relying on their short-term memory alone would be insufficient to recall unfamiliar content.



Putting up the positive affirmations flower on the class noticeboard

Lastly, students practised deep breathing techniques and learnt the importance of staying positive. They wrote notes of affirmation to themselves on a flower template which would serve as a handy and timely reminder for them to do their best while they prepare for their examinations.



A completed positive affirmations flower

# Virtual Tour & Escape Room Experience

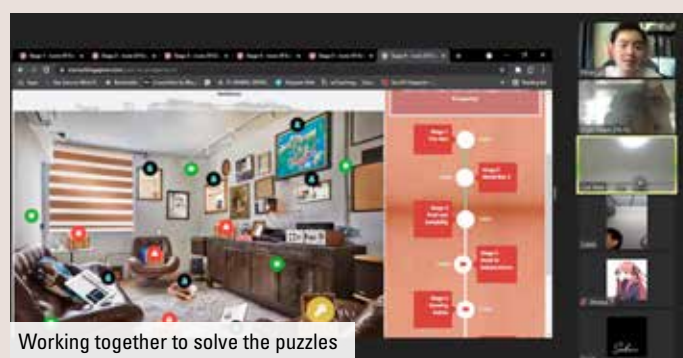
Undeterred by the current situation of not being able to go on excursions, a group of students took the chance to leap into a new challenge – their first ever Virtual Tour and Escape Room adventure! The students met online from home on 4 August 2021 after their lessons and with the guidance of 'Fun Empire', they began their journey.

The group was first challenged with puzzles involving iconic landmarks in Singapore before moving on to a virtual tour of the Former Ford Factory. Students were able to use the given clues to solve the puzzles, and worked together to unlock each room before eventually arriving at the final stage of the game.

Throughout this activity, students were challenged to work together within time constraints, and they did so with much enthusiasm. They were able to persevere throughout each challenge and managed to solve and unlock the stages together. Certainly a true display of our school's value of resilience!



Exploring the virtual Ford Factory Museum to solve the puzzle



Working together to solve the puzzles



Completing a virtual tour of the escape room for the first time

# Geographical Investigation at East Coast Park



Measuring the slope of the beach



Taking sand samples from the quadrat for sediment analysis



Checking each other's measurement process

Secondary Four Geography students participated in a geographical inquiry on Singapore's coastal environment at East Coast Park (ECP) on 28 April 2021. Geographical Investigation is an integral part of learning in the Humanities curriculum as it provides relevant and authentic contexts that enable students' understanding of geographical concepts and processes.

During the investigation, students made use of different fieldwork tools to collect relevant data onsite, measured the beach profile and conducted sediment analysis to find out if the sediment differed along the beach. They also measured wave frequency to establish the nature of waves at ECP.

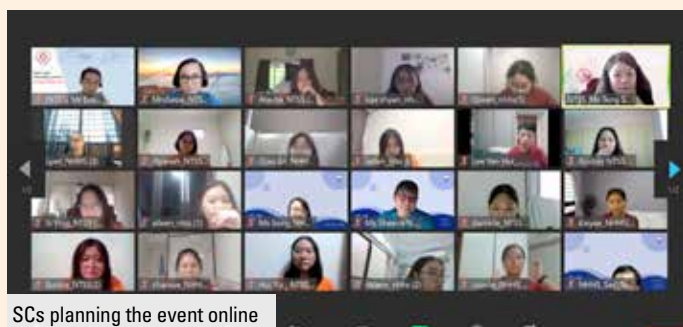
Lastly, students drew field sketches of the coastal landscape and annotated key features of the physical environment. They were engaged, enthusiastic and certainly benefited from the authentic learning experience.



Participant playing the game "Guess the Picture" as to figure out who



Teaching the DISTRESS model to the primary school students



SCs planning the event online

## Student Leadership Training

The W1 Cluster Student Leadership Training is an annual programme which aims to equip primary school student leaders with leadership skills. This year, our Student Councillors (SCs) partnered with Nan Hua High School's CareForce in the planning and execution of the event.

With the theme of "Among Us", the SCs and Care Ambassadors met virtually and prepared for training, with the hope of nurturing the younger student leaders to be caring and to have effective communication skills.

One of the planners, Grace Lim En Hui (3E1), shared, "We focussed on making the project a success. Through the collaboration, we learnt best practices from each other."

On 21 May 2021, 70 students from Clementi Primary, Nan Hua Primary, Qifa Primary and Yuhua Primary attended the virtual training over Zoom. The SCs conducted three games to impart the skills of critical thinking and effective communication. To build resilience, each game had an "imposter" who was tasked to confuse and sabotage the morale of the group.

Through much fun and laughter, our SCs effectively enriched the young ones and made the virtual event a success!



## thINK Writing Mentorship Programme

A collaboration between our school and the National University of Singapore under the University Scholars Programme (USP), thINK aims to impact critical writing and thinking skills of selected Secondary Three students who have displayed a strong command of the language. The programme strives to broaden our students' knowledge beyond their classrooms while providing them the opportunity to hone their expository writing skills.

The students had discussions with the objective of widening perspectives and the USP mentors worked closely with each of their mentees to produce an expository essay. During the four sessions in Term 3, 2021, mentors guided their mentees through the process of planning, researching, writing and refining.

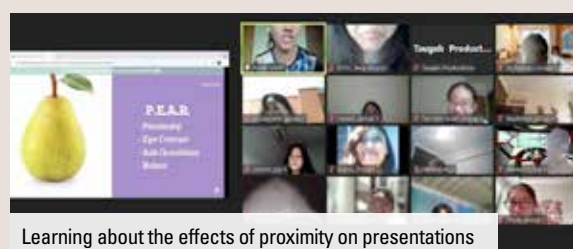


Participants of thINK

Besides delivering the final essay, this programme also inspired the students to be confident and discerning writers.

## Speech Enrichment Workshop

On 4 August 2021, selected students from Secondary One to Three participated in a Speech Enrichment Workshop. Even though the workshop was held over Zoom, it did not dampen the spirits of the participants who erupted occasionally into boisterous laughter at the responses of their school mates. They actively contributed to group discussions and participated enthusiastically throughout the programme.



Learning about the effects of proximity on presentations

The students learnt techniques of voice projection as well as strategies that would help them give an engaging presentation. The workshop culminated in an insightful application of these strategies that helped students to be more sensitive to the purpose, audience and context of their presentation.

## Secondary Three Camp

Held in school during the 2021 September school holidays, the Secondary Three Camp was an invaluable experience for the cohort as their teamwork, communication skills and ability to think out of the box were put to the test.

Through activities such as the Outdoor Cooking Challenge, students learnt about planning and decision-making as a team and exercised their creativity with limited resources. Essential outdoor skills such as tent pitching and fire starting with raw materials were also taught during the camp.

Over the two days, the students were able to bond with their classmates and teachers.



Working together to pitch a tent



Getting ready for the archery combat challenge



Learning how to start a fire



# Inter-class Obstacle Challenge

The Inter-Class Obstacle Challenge in Term 2 was a new initiative in place of the annual Sports Carnival which could not be carried out due to the COVID-19 situation. The event aimed to provide students with an opportunity to apply their Physical Education (PE) skills and knowledge, inculcate positive values, demonstrate teamwork and overcome challenges with resilience.

The event comprised two segments: Station Challenges and the Obstacle Team Challenge.

The atmosphere was lively and energising as each team strove to bring glory to its class. The strong teamwork and positive sportsmanship displayed by students was an exhilarating sight to see. The help and support from the PE and Sports Ambassadors also contributed to the success of the event.

William Hindlet Longzhihao (4E2) commented that the event was fun, interesting, and unconventional. He thought that every challenge posed a different twist which required good strategies and teamwork.

J. Darren Sham (1N5) also learnt the importance of not giving up and persevering through pressurising and difficult moments in order to complete the various obstacles and tasks.



Balancing a floorball during the Obstacle Team Challenge



Fighting through fatigue and persevering as teams moved towards the finishing line

Prizes were awarded to the top classes in each level. Congratulations to 1E3, 3E4 and 4E2!

# Racial Harmony Day

Newtowners commemorated Racial Harmony Day on 21 July 2021. In line with the theme "Common Spaces, Connected Communities", students were led to reflect on how they could practise cultural sensitivity in hawker centres in order to make the common space an inclusive place for all.

Niki Gollent, National Education Ambassador of 3E1, also shared how we each play an important role in preserving and strengthening harmony among different races and religions in Singapore. He pointed out that if racial stereotypes and unhealthy perceptions were left unchecked, it could lead to misunderstandings or conflicts among Singaporeans. His sharing reinforced the importance of practising cultural sensitivity in shared spaces, including school, which is a common space shared by students and staff of different backgrounds.



Racial Harmony Day commemoration in class



1N6's noticeboard decoration

## Recap of my five key takeaways



Niki Gollent's Morning Inspiration sharing



# National Day Celebrations

Newtowners commemorated Singapore's 56<sup>th</sup> National Day through various initiatives over several months this year.

Starting from Term 2, the National Day curricular engagement efforts led students to discover and celebrate the contributions of our forefathers and Singaporeans through the Secondary One English Language Research Project, Secondary Two Historical Investigation and Secondary Three Social Studies Issue Investigation.

Students were also encouraged to reflect on what makes Singapore "home" through the National Day Photography Competition in July.



Student contributors for National Day Commemoration Video

Our commemoration culminated in a vibrant celebration on 6 August 2021 with a video on "Our Singapore Story" featuring our students' reflections on building a stronger Singaporean society and a pre-recorded medley of National Day songs performed by teachers. Both videos sought to evoke in Newtowners the sense of a common Singaporean identity and reinvigorate their desire to collectively embrace the challenges ahead.



Pre-recording of National Day songs

# Teachers' Day Celebration

On 2 September 2021, teachers cheerfully joined the student-led celebrations with their form classes. The celebration was a culmination of the hard work of our student councillors who painstakingly consolidated the well wishes from students and meticulously planned the class activities.

Teachers sat back and enjoyed the celebration anchored by the student councillors. The programme started with a Kahoot activity, where students were tested on how well they knew their subject teachers. Not only were students able to discover something new about their teachers, teachers also learnt a lot more about their colleagues through the quiz!



Learning about their teachers via the Kahoot Quiz

This was followed by a "match-it" game where students had to quickly match given words to the images shown on the screen, piecing together an appreciation message for their teachers. At the end of the activity, student leaders presented their teachers with tokens of appreciation for their hard work.

Indeed, not only was it a wonderful time of bonding within each class, it was truly a time of acknowledging and appreciating our teachers. Thank you, teachers! You are simply amazing!



Student councillors facilitating the activities

# Cross Country 2021

The Annual Cross Country is one of the most anticipated events of the year. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we were not able to hold the event at an external venue. When some restrictions were lifted under Phase 2, a modified Cross Country challenge was organised during the PE lessons.

A running course was mapped out around the basketball courts to allow students to complete the 2.4 km run. Students went through at least two weeks of training to build their stamina for the run.

It took a lot of mental strength for the students to push themselves to complete the repetitive rounds at the basketball courts. However, students took the challenge in their stride and demonstrated determination and resilience as they worked hard to clock their personal best timing.

Congratulations to the following Champion Classes of 2021:

Secondary One – 1E3

Secondary Two – 2E3

Secondary Three – 3E3

Secondary Four & Five – 4E1

In the CCA Challenge category, the Football team and Basketball team (Girls) emerged as top teams for this year.



Medal recipients from 3E2



Medal recipients from 2E3

# E-Graduation Ceremony



Listening in rapt attention to words of encouragement from the Guest-of-Honour



Enjoying the bento-style lunch treat

The Graduation Ceremony celebrates a milestone in our students' secondary school journey and gives them an opportunity to appreciate staff who have impacted their lives.

During the event, Dr Eng Soh Ping, an alumni and a School Advisory Committee member gave a rousing opening address via video recording, urging our students to look out for one another in these difficult times and to view challenges as growth opportunities.

During the Character Award segment, deserving finalists and recipients were announced. The video montage that followed evoked fond memories as it traced the students' growth journey through their formative years.

This year, a writing appreciation workshop was organised for students to pen messages to thank staff who have made a difference in their lives. At lunch time, the students were treated to individual bento-style lunch sets.

The school wishes our students all the best for their national examinations!



Presenting the certificate of recognition

▶ Appreciation messages penned by the graduating students



# Social Studies Issue Investigation

As part of the efforts to promote inter-school collaboration, our students from 3E4 embarked on a Social Studies Issues Investigation project with Nan Hua High School students.

Through inquiry-based learning in an authentic context, students researched on the interactions between Singaporeans and foreigners. Each project group consisted of students from both schools and they were given guidance on research skills before they conducted online interviews and surveys. During the final session, each group presented their findings in a Zoom seminar.

Our students gained valuable experience in learning how to work collaboratively, communicating effectively and thinking critically.



Collaborating on their research project

# Green Schools Assembly Programme

New Town Secondary School is an active participant of the South West CDC's Green Schools @ South West Programme. During a class-based assembly programme, students learnt about novel solutions to current environmental issues through a sharing by Green Guardian, Asok Samridhi (3E1).

Students embarked on different modules designed around specific environmental themes. Secondary One students learnt the importance of energy conservation and translated their ideas on energy conservation into hand-drawn posters. Secondary Two students were educated on the importance of maintaining clean eateries and created jingles to spread awareness on this issue. Secondary Three students deepened their knowledge on dengue prevention and created bookmarks to educate their families and friends on ways to prevent the spread of dengue.



Presenting their jingle in class



Showing their hand-drawn poster



Poster on energy conservation

# PDLP@NTSS



Unboxing the PLD



Testing out the Apple Pencil



Installing the protective keyboard case for the PLD

In line with the Ministry of Education's plan to implement Blended Learning and encourage self-directedness, Secondary One to Three Newtowners received their Personal Learning Devices (PLDs) on 23 August 2021.

During the handover session, students excitedly unboxed and set up their devices, facilitated by their Form Teachers. There was a two-week Device Familiarisation Period where Digital Literacy learning packages were assigned to students to level up their ICT and Cyber Wellness competencies. The use of PLDs will be gradually infused into classroom teaching and learning, with the aim of encouraging lifelong learning in students.

PDLP@NTSS will be a transformative journey over the next few years and the school looks forward to all students coming onboard!

# Guzheng Ensemble



Refining their techniques



New Town Guzheng Ensemble

encouragement to one another when the training got tough. On stage, they remained calm and gave their best during the performance. Under the guidance of the teachers and instructor, the students did the school proud by attaining a Certificate of Distinction.

On 19 April 2021, 29 Newtowners in the Guzheng Ensemble took part in the biennial Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation held at the Singapore Conference Hall. Although the Safe Management Measures posed challenges to the training and preparation, our students displayed resilience and tenacity.

Tan Wen Xuan (1E4) said, "The determination and confidence shown by my seniors taught me that when we work hard and put in effort, we can achieve anything."

Everyone remained focussed on their goals and spent hours refining their techniques. They supported and provided

"The SYF journey was a roller-coaster ride of emotions and a period of tremendous hard work. I am glad that the team has achieved its target, a Distinction!" shared Jhane Sneha Santos Dash (2E4).

# Chinese Dance



Performing at the SYF Arts Presentation



Our graceful dancers



Rehearsal before the final performance

On 6 April 2021, our Chinese Dance performers participated in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation. The dance 'Yu Wu Xing' combined graceful Chinese dance movements with traditional music to showcase the elegance of traditional Chinese culture.

The students practised three times a week for six months. They invested time and effort to overcome the challenges posed by the implementation of the safe management measures, and demonstrated the school values of resilience and self-discipline.

Naomi Goh (4E2) reflected on her experience of training for the SYF remarking, "Chinese Dance, as well as any other Performing Arts CCA, requires strong commitment and passion. As a dancer, it is important and necessary for me to have a strong sense of discipline."

As a result of the members' grit, passion for dance, and support for one another, Chinese Dance ended its SYF experience on a high note with a Certificate of Distinction.



## Concert Band

Our Concert Band took part in the Flexible Band category in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation on 12 April 2021 with a choice piece from James Swearingen, 'Clark County Celebration' and the performance was judged by the industry's professional adjudicators. The team endured intense hours of rehearsals and managed to attain the Certificate of Accomplishment which reflected their hard work and efforts.

The long rehearsal hours certainly brought the band closer as an ensemble and also pushed the team members' level of discipline. The main takeaways for these strong-willed musicians are the values learnt and the bonds forged with each other.



Persevering during the practice sessions



There is nothing like being on stage

## Malay Dance

On 29 March 2021, our Malay Dance group of 14 dancers participated in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation at the NUS University Cultural Centre. The event provided a platform for the students to express their aesthetic talents through the appreciation of different genres of music. The girls gave their best in presenting a traditional Malay dance item entitled 'Aura Fatamorgana'. They showed resilience throughout the training sessions and worked together closely. Their hard work helped them attain a Certificate of Accomplishment.

Nur Nayla Syazalina (4E4) shared her experience aptly when she said, "The drive of wanting to be the best was what made us grow into who we are today!"



Our graceful dancers on stage



Bright smiles after the performance



# National Cadet Corps (NCC)



Using First Person View goggles to fly the drone



Flying a drone

A full-day drone workshop was conducted on 28 October 2021 for our Secondary One to Three NCC cadets. The cadets were introduced to the basics of aerodynamics and they picked up coding and drone-flying skills.

Muhammad Zairi Bin Muhammad Zaki (1E1) shared that the workshop was fun and challenging as he had to fly the drone to overcome an obstacle course and compete with the other cadets in a friendly race.

# National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC)



Striving to perfect their MMA moves

On 17 August 2021, the Secondary One NPCC cadets had the opportunity to train with a professional Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) fighter over Zoom.

During the CCA training, the cadets acquired the basics of MMA, such as the jab, overhand punch and stance. Despite it being a virtual course, the trainer gave valuable feedback on the cadets' progress. The stories shared by the trainer inspired the cadets to have perseverance and adopt good sportsmanship in their daily lives.

# Girl Guides

Despite the many challenges faced in adhering to Safe Management Measures, our Girl Guides have remained active through various activities.

The guides had the opportunity to facilitate a 'Free Being Me' workshop for guides across different schools during the West Division Learning Day on 31 July 2021. Our guides were also the masters of ceremonies for our first virtual West Division campfire on 13 August 2021 where they hosted with confidence and enthusiasm.



Emcee for our first Virtual West Division Campfire



Sharing during West Division Learning Day

# Scouts



Blindfolded Battleship



Working together to 'Write It Together'

Our Scouts Patrol Leaders worked hand in hand with Patrol Seconds in planning two team-bonding activities successfully. The activities were 'Blindfolded Battleship' and 'Write It Together'. Both activities required great teamwork and careful planning to achieve the objectives.

The Scouts had a lot of fun and were excited to be able to work together towards a common goal.



# Badminton

In Term 1, our Badminton players competed against many strong and skilful opponents in the West Zone National School Games (NSG) Badminton Championships 2021. Our players exhibited sportsmanship in every match that they played.

Despite the Safe Management Measures, our students continued to prepare themselves physically and mentally through a blend of face-to-face and online training sessions. During the online training sessions, students were given opportunities to develop strategic gameplay, sportsmanship, and leadership skills.



Our 'B' Division Boys Doubles during the competition

# Basketball

With an emphasis on dedication, determination and discipline, our Basketball team believes in unity through diversity. Each student is given the opportunity to grow in a conducive environment where they are motivated, challenged and inspired to achieve progress.

Despite the challenges faced, our basketball players seized the opportunities and rose to the occasion. A 3x3 New Town Basketball League (NBL) was organised to drive the idea of inclusivity, progress, and sportsmanship in a competitive setting. Basketball players will keep pressing on to the mark!



Basketball Boys Team



Basketball Girls Team

# Football

The Secondary Four Football players participated in their last training in February at the Clementi Stadium. It was a day filled with mixed feelings, as it marked the end of their CCA journey at NTSS. At the same time, they felt proud to have endured the tough training sessions and to see their juniors mature.



Warm-up exercise



Our Football team

# Table Tennis

On 29 March 2021, Table Tennis 'B' Division boys and girls set off for their first ever competition. During the competition, they faced many challenges such as not having enough practices due to the Safe Management Measures and the uncertainty of whether the games would be cancelled. Despite these, they persevered and tried their best, displaying resilience and self-discipline.

Team Captain, Jasper Low Choon Eng (3N5), said, "I am grateful I had the opportunity to play against players with different skill levels."



Competing against his opponent

# Softball

It has been a challenging journey for our Softball girls this year. Without physical training sessions and competitions, they had few opportunities to train and bond as a team. However, they were able to carry out multiple online sessions to forge deeper and meaningful bonds as a team.



Coming together for a rare group shot



Team Bonding via Zoom



Capturing our heritage through photography

## Infocomm Technology (Media Production)

Infocomm Technology (Media Production) members exercised their media skills and creativity through participation in various competitions this year.

Through the 'iBuildSG Club: Pinnacle Competition 2021', students captured the splendour of Singapore's buildings from their own perspectives.

In the 'Our Schools, Our Stories' competition, they showcased precious moments of camaraderie in school and when they participated in the 'DrugFreeSG' video competition, students created a short film depicting themselves as heroes championing a drug-free society.

## Media Resource Library

Members of the Media Resource Library attended a training session on Stop Motion. They learnt how to combine visual arts with animation to create a fun and entertaining stop motion video.

Kong Yun Yee (3E2) said, "During the filming process, we learnt about frames and lighting. This allowed me to make smoother transitions and scenes in the video".

The completed videos were turned into book trailers to generate an interest in reading amongst our students.



Receiving guidance on movement of their paper cuts



Filming their stop motion video



Working on a landscape painting



With the completed landscape painting

## Art Club

During CCA sessions, our Art Club members are exposed to a variety of art forms and techniques. By applying these techniques, students were able to express their unique ideas and creativity to create landscape paintings using a mixture of oil and acrylic mediums.

Our Secondary Three students also partnered with the MOE Arts Education Branch to develop a series of art resources for Art Labs, a platform featured in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) 2021 Celebrations. Through Art Labs, students are encouraged to develop their artistic voice exploring and expressing their ideas creatively. Our students designed and animated an imaginary GIF character which embodied positive values and messages. The students' works were showcased on the website, SYFgoesOnline.



# Cluster Professional Learning Day



Our West 1 (W1) Cluster Professional Learning Day was held via Zoom on 16 April 2021. Four of our learning teams presented their projects to participants from the W1 cluster schools.

This event was organised with the objectives of providing a platform for educators to network and share their curriculum innovations with one another. It was also an opportunity for educators to learn from and build on one another's professional practice.

Chinese Language, Science, Humanities and Physical Education learning teams from NTSS

## Apple Training for Staff

In Term 3 2021, our teachers attended a series of Professional Learning Programmes to build their competencies and confidence in using the iPad and the Apple ecosystem for teaching and learning in the classroom.

Besides the school-based, face-to-face training sessions conducted by the learning specialists from the Apple Education Team, teachers also attended virtual subject-based sessions where they learned from the experiences of teachers from other schools.

A core team of teacher-champions also attended the Apple Learning Institute training session to be certified as Apple Learning Leaders. This training enables them to better support their colleagues as designers and facilitators of technology-mediated learning experiences.

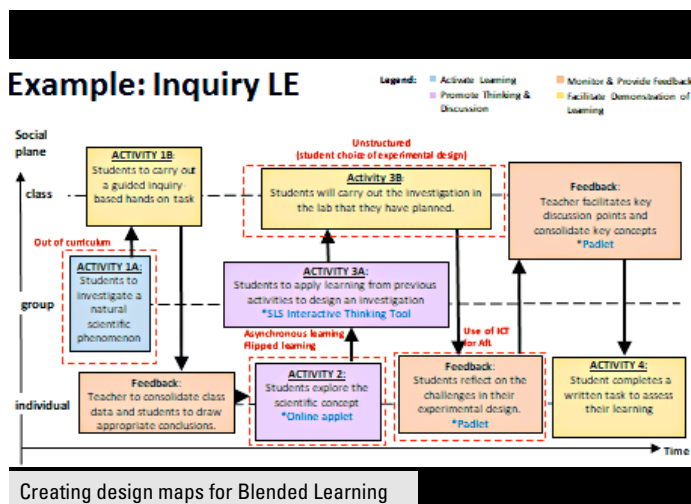


Learning the functions of Apple Classroom



Leveraging on different tools to increase student engagement

## Home-Based Staff Learning Day



The evolving COVID-19 situation did not stop our staff from learning through collaboration. On 24 June 2021, staff attended a Home-Based Staff Learning Day.

The programme focussed on the best practices that leverage technology to provide different learning experiences. Staff explored the use of e-pedagogy, Student Learning Space (SLS), as well as tech-enabled assessment for learning during our Blended Learning Experiences Week.

As we engaged teachers in conversations on Blended Learning and the use of e-pedagogy for active learning, many colleagues were inspired by the generous sharing. It was truly heartening to see everybody building upon each other's ideas to further engage students in the classroom.

# Outstanding Youth in Education Award 2021

We are proud to share that Ms Stella Yap, our Physical Education Teacher, has emerged as one of the Top 13 Finalists amongst 4143 nominations for the Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA) 2021. OYEA is a national award that recognises and honours the achievement of young educators who have shown admirable passion, energy and commitment in the development of youth beyond the formal curriculum, inspiring and nurturing their students.

Ms Stella Yap envisions for every student to be a peer supporter and every class and CCA a network of support to empower students to feel safe and know that they belong. As a strong believer in the power of the arts and innovation to enliven, engage, empower, and heal, she strives to connect with her students through developmental transformations.

She meaningfully infuses music, technology, gamification and visuals in her PE classes, with an emphasis on developing thinking and competent players. Together with her Peer Support Leaders and basketball players, she inspires her family of Newtowners to become agents of change and to press on in unity through diversity.

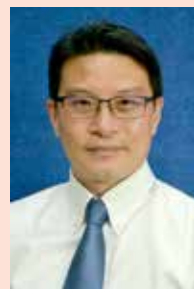


## 2021 National Day Awardees

### The Commendation Medal

Congratulations to Mr Alan Cheng Poh Huat (HOD/Discipline) for receiving the National Day Award Commendation Medal.

The Commendation Medal is awarded to an officer who has distinguished oneself through commendable performance and conduct, or significant efficiency, competence and devotion to duty.



### Long Service Medal

The school congratulates Mr Tom Chan Kok Tung (Vice-Principal), Mdm Kasumawati Binte Wansi (Senior Teacher) and Mrs Gandhimathi Rashasegaran for attaining their Long Service Medal.

This award is for duty-holders who have completed at least 25 years of service.



## Our New Teachers

From left to right:  
Mr Ong Zhongsheng Joel  
Miss Chua Zi Hui Samantha  
Miss Caley Ng Yuet Wan  
Ms Song Ziyang

### Publications Committee

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