



ACS (INTERNATIONAL) NEWSLETTER

March 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear Students, Parents and Friends,

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend the IB Global Conference in Singapore, where the theme “Our Humanity, Connected” brought together educators and leaders from around the world. It was a timely and meaningful exploration of how we can build deeper, more empathetic relationships within our schools, and equip young people to lead with compassion in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

The conference highlighted many important areas including wellbeing, belonging, sustainability, and international-mindedness. However, at the heart of it all was the simple, powerful idea that human connection matters. As educators, we are reminded that learning does not happen in isolation; it is nurtured in community, in dialogue, and in relationships built on mutual respect and care.

This message resonated with me, especially in the context of our own school community. At ACS (International), we are fortunate to have a rich diversity of cultures, languages, and perspectives represented on our campus. That diversity is not just a feature of our school, it is one of our greatest strengths. It challenges us to listen more, understand more, and grow together.

The conference theme naturally aligns with the Christian ethos of ACS. Our belief in the inherent worth of every individual and our commitment to servant leadership, kindness, and justice deeply complement the IB’s mission to develop caring, internationally minded people. It served as a good reminder that we are called not only to succeed, but to serve.

It was encouraging to see that many of the ideas shared at the conference are already reflected in what we do, from our emphasis on student voice, to our House system that fosters connection across year levels, to the many ways our students lead service initiatives and community-building efforts.

The conference challenged me to continue to strengthen the connections that define our humanity not only in theory, but in the day-to-day moments of kindness, care, and understanding that shape the culture of our school.

Gavin Kinch
Principal

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Term 1 Commendation Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Principal's List for Effort and Achievement, Distinction for Effort and Achievement, Commendation for Effort and Achievement, and Commendation for Effort:

Principal's List for Effort and Achievement			
NO	NAME	YEAR	HOUSE
1	CHO HYOBIN	2	CHEONG KOON SENG
2	KIM CHAEWON	4	CHEONG KOON SENG
3	BONO JAKUB GAJDEK	6	CHEONG KOON SENG
4	WU YUFEI	6	CHEONG KOON SENG
5	CLAYTON OLIVER WIBOWO	4	GOH HOOD KENG
6	KIM MINSEO	PRE IB	GOH HOOD KENG
7	TEJASWINI JAYAKUMAR	6	GOH HOOD KENG
8	KIM SUNYOON	1	LEE SENG GEE
9	KANON TAMIYA	4	LEE SENG GEE
10	KAYLEE VICTORIA NG	6	LEE SENG GEE
11	KIM KYUNGEUN	4	OLDHAM
12	EKEESHA ATRE	4	OLDHAM
13	JANELLE NG YI LING	FOUNDATION IB	OLDHAM
14	LEE YESEO	6	OLDHAM
15	PARK HYORIN	1	SHAW VEE MENG
16	PARK YOONHA	4	SHAW VEE MENG
17	MOK HO YI	6	SHAW VEE MENG
18	LEE XUE EN AERIEL	6	SHAW VEE MENG
19	ORNAIYA JONGSITTHISATJAKUL	1	TAN CHIN TUAN
20	ISSEY TAKENOCHI WEBB	1	TAN CHIN TUAN
21	ASHTON MIKAEL GOZALI	4	TAN CHIN TUAN
22	SIM AHJEONG	6	TAN CHIN TUAN
23	XIE XINTONG	6	TAN CHIN TUAN
24	CHEN JIANING	1	THOBURN
25	LI YIYI	3	THOBURN
26	ROH GANGUK	6	THOBURN
27	RACHEL CHOO YING HSUAN	6	THOBURN
28	CHENG NUO	2	TAN KAH KEE
29	LAURA KOSAREV	2	TAN KAH KEE
30	KIM SEOHA	2	TAN KAH KEE
31	WU YOU	6	TAN KAH KEE
32	LEE SOLHEE	6	TAN KAH KEE

Distinction for Effort and Achievement			
NO	NAME	YEAR	HOUSE
1	AAKASH GUPTA	2	CHEONG KOON SENG
2	LUKE LIM YI KAI	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
3	WEE KANG QING	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
4	MAHIRO YAMAMOTO	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
5	JOY NG KAI XIN	4	CHEONG KOON SENG
6	ARYAV BHESANIA	6	CHEONG KOON SENG
7	SONG YU	6	CHEONG KOON SENG
8	HUI SZE CHEONG ERIE	1	GOH HOOD KENG
9	AMELIA SHI-MIN ADETOLA OLOPADE	4	GOH HOOD KENG
10	KAITLYN WONG QIYI	4	GOH HOOD KENG
11	DIANA MARRAPODI	FOUNDATION IB	GOH HOOD KENG
12	CHOI YEONWOO	6	GOH HOOD KENG
13	DHAR YUTIKA	6	GOH HOOD KENG
14	KAM KAY TRINH	6	GOH HOOD KENG
15	NATASHA NASYA GANDHI	2	LEE SENG GEE
16	LEE SEOHYUN	2	LEE SENG GEE
17	ZHANG YUHAN	3	LEE SENG GEE
18	NG QI ZHEN TAMMY	4	LEE SENG GEE
19	LEE SEUNGBIN	1	OLDHAM
20	JUNG EUNHO	1B	OLDHAM
21	EVELYN ONG KENG WOON	2	OLDHAM
22	NICOLE KHI ANN RAE	2	OLDHAM
23	KIM TAEKYUM	PRE IGCSE	OLDHAM
24	LEE WOOCHAN	4	OLDHAM
25	TANG ZIYI	6	OLDHAM
26	YUTO SAKAMOTO	6	OLDHAM
27	JUNG JAEIN	PRE IGCSE	SHAW VEE MENG
28	KO YENA	3	SHAW VEE MENG
29	JACOB CHRISTOPHER BUDIMAN	4	SHAW VEE MENG
30	REN ZIMING	6	SHAW VEE MENG
31	KAITLYN SARA YONG YI-LIN	1	TAN CHIN TUAN
32	AGNA RAHUL	1	TAN CHIN TUAN
33	KAELYN LIM JIA XIN	2	TAN CHIN TUAN
34	CASSY HARUMI SHANNON	2	TAN CHIN TUAN
35	KIM TAEHEE	3	TAN CHIN TUAN
36	KIM DOYEON	4	TAN CHIN TUAN
37	LU PO-HSUEH	4	TAN CHIN TUAN
38	PAULINA GORELIK	2	THOBURN
39	CHIN JIA SYUEN	2	THOBURN
40	CHARLOTTE ANG RUOXUAN	3	THOBURN
41	JING BORUN	3	THOBURN
42	SEONG YEONWOO	3	THOBURN
43	KHAIR SIYA KETAN	4	THOBURN
44	QIAN HANWEN	4	THOBURN
45	YUN SEOJEONG	4	THOBURN
46	LO CHEUK CHUN	4	THOBURN
47	YUN SEJIN	6	THOBURN
48	EZEKIEL PHUA ZHEN YI	6	THOBURN
49	RION INOUE	1	TAN KAH KEE
50	YUMIKO MIYATA	2	TAN KAH KEE
51	EVIE CHO CHUAN CHI	2	TAN KAH KEE
52	CHO INYOUNG	PRE IGCSE	TAN KAH KEE
53	LI LEQI	3	TAN KAH KEE
54	NAISSHA MAKHIJA	4	TAN KAH KEE
55	AUBREY ROSE MC CLUNG JIANZI MEISHI	4	TAN KAH KEE
56	ELDON JOEL KWAN	6	TAN KAH KEE
57	ADELLYN GARCIA	6	TAN KAH KEE
58	KANDY PENG XINNING	6	TAN KAH KEE



Commendation for Effort and Achievement

NO	NAME	YEAR	HOUSE
1	VICTORIA GOH YAN MAY	2	CHEONG KOON SENG
2	LEIA LAM	2	CHEONG KOON SENG
3	TAN ZI YA	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
4	HARSHNI SVASUBRAMANIAN	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
5	ENA WATANABE	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
6	KANSINEE WONGTREENATRKOON	3	CHEONG KOON SENG
7	SIDNEY CHARLIZE CHONG	4	CHEONG KOON SENG
8	PHOEBE NG EN HWEE	4	CHEONG KOON SENG
9	ZHOU CHENGYI	4	CHEONG KOON SENG
10	CHA YOOJIN	FOUNDATION IB	CHEONG KOON SENG
11	LEE TSUNG MENG MARK	6	CHEONG KOON SENG
12	ISHA GAUTAM	1	GOH HOOD KENG
13	ELOISE PENELOPE BRILLIANT	1	GOH HOOD KENG
14	SEOW XUAN LE MELODY	1	GOH HOOD KENG
15	RANIDA TRITRAKULCHAI	1	GOH HOOD KENG
16	SEO YUNHEE	PRE IGCSE	GOH HOOD KENG
17	EMILY TIAN GETTEN	3	GOH HOOD KENG
18	KIM BIAH	3	GOH HOOD KENG
19	KAYLEIGH LIM JIAHUI	3	GOH HOOD KENG
20	ZHANG CHENQI	4	GOH HOOD KENG
21	HANALEIGH KANDIAWAN	4	GOH HOOD KENG
22	KIM HYOEON	FOUNDATION IB	GOH HOOD KENG
23	PEH CHENG JUN ELLIOT	FOUNDATION IB	GOH HOOD KENG
24	AUDREY NIU XIAO RAN	PRE IB	GOH HOOD KENG
25	DANA CHOO	1	LEE SENG GEE
26	LEE MING XUAN	1	LEE SENG GEE
27	KIM YE RHAM	2	LEE SENG GEE
28	KWAK TAEHUN	2	LEE SENG GEE
29	ERIN NAKAMURA	2	LEE SENG GEE
30	LEE AIN	3	LEE SENG GEE
31	NOH HAJU	3	LEE SENG GEE
32	REYANNE TAN RI EN	3	LEE SENG GEE
33	ZOU ZIYUAN	4	LEE SENG GEE
34	LI TENG YI	4	LEE SENG GEE
35	ANNIE HUAIYU WANG	PRE IB	LEE SENG GEE
36	ONG ZI YI	6	LEE SENG GEE
37	AYSHA MINHAS	6	LEE SENG GEE
38	DARSHANAA SIVAKUMAR	1	OLDHAM
39	SHARADA RAMANATHAN	1	OLDHAM
40	CHARLENE PHUA XUAN NING	1	OLDHAM
41	ARUNIMA JAITAWAT	2	OLDHAM
42	KIM JOONSOO	PRE IGCSE	OLDHAM
43	LEE WU	3	OLDHAM
44	KIM JEEYOO	3	OLDHAM
45	HAN QIRUI	3	OLDHAM
46	ETHAN PHUA JUN KAI	3	OLDHAM
47	SARA ATTAL	6	OLDHAM
48	NATASHA TAN RAE	6	OLDHAM
49	FU SI JIE	6	OLDHAM
50	NG WUJ DI ELTON	2	SHAW VEE MENG
51	CHARLOTTE LOW JEN MIN	2	SHAW VEE MENG
52	WILSON HO	2	SHAW VEE MENG
53	RENEE MARLEY PETRUS	2	SHAW VEE MENG
54	KIM TAEYEON	3	SHAW VEE MENG
55	KIM YEJIN	4	SHAW VEE MENG
56	KAYLA GOH JIA EN	4	SHAW VEE MENG
57	NGAI TAK FAI	PRE IB	SHAW VEE MENG
58	ZHANG ZHEHAN	PRE IB	SHAW VEE MENG
59	RINTARO SUGIMOTO	6	SHAW VEE MENG
60	FOO YU XI KENZIE	6	SHAW VEE MENG

61	ZOU LUXI	2	TAN CHIN TUAN
62	VANYA GUPTA	3	TAN CHIN TUAN
63	WANG ANQI	4	TAN CHIN TUAN
64	ALYSON SOPHY ANG	6	TAN CHIN TUAN
65	PARMAR FIONA NIRAJ	1	THOBURN
66	KIM YERIN	1	THOBURN
67	HAILEY LARISSA CHEW	1	THOBURN
68	GABRIELLE TAN YUELING	1	THOBURN
69	RACHEL ANNE DORAMUS	2	THOBURN
70	KIM YEWON	3	THOBURN
71	RIANNE NG	4	THOBURN
72	MEGAN ELIZABETH LIN	FOUNDATION IB	THOBURN
73	MELODY LEE YUN SHYAN	6	THOBURN
74	JULIAN LIM DEAN HOWE	6	THOBURN
75	AVALEIGH IVANKA SILFANUS	1	TAN KAH KEE
76	ISHA ZAARA BISWAS	1	TAN KAH KEE
77	CHA HANNAH	1	TAN KAH KEE
78	CHO AYOUNG	1B	TAN KAH KEE
79	CHRISTIAN ARIHANT GREUTER	2	TAN KAH KEE
80	MEHR BHATIA	2	TAN KAH KEE
81	HONG SOHYUN	PRE IGCSE	TAN KAH KEE
82	LIU MUCHEN	4	TAN KAH KEE
83	ATHENA PEH	6	TAN KAH KEE
84	DANIEL TAY YEE JYE	6	TAN KAH KEE
85	CHENG SHIZHAO	6	TAN KAH KEE

Commendation for Effort

NO	NAME	YEAR	HOUSE
1	LEE YEJI	1	CHEONG KOON SENG
2	SEONG JIYOON	1B	CHEONG KOON SENG
3	SHELBY TEO SEE YOUNG	2	CHEONG KOON SENG
4	SVARA VIVEK	2	GOH HOOD KENG
5	LI YUECEN	3	GOH HOOD KENG
6	ISABELLA GRACE VERONICA TAN SI-EN	1	GOH HOOD KENG
7	ARJUN SUBASHPRABU	2	GOH HOOD KENG
8	SHREYANSI NAGORI	2	GOH HOOD KENG
9	REBECCA LIM SIYU	4	LEE SENG GEE
10	NG HWEE MIN MIRANDA	2	OLDHAM
11	NITHILAN PARAMASIVAM	2	OLDHAM
12	SONYA BEH JIAWEN	3	SHAW VEE MENG
13	CHLOE SEOW YI EN	3	SHAW VEE MENG
14	LIEW ZEN XIYN	2	TAN CHIN TUAN
15	LIANG TINGYU	3	TAN CHIN TUAN
16	ANYA YEO YA XUAN	2	THOBURN
17	MA YISHUO	6	THOBURN
18	RAGHUNANDHAN KUMARAN	4	TAN KAH KEE

World Mathematics Championship

On 15 February 2025, 12 students from ACS (International) participated in the Senior Regionals of the World Mathematics Championship (WMC) at UWC South East Asia (Dover Campus). Meanwhile, on 22 February 2025, 9 students took part in the Secondary Regionals held at UWC South East Asia (East Campus). Students from Years 4 to 6 competed in the Senior Regionals, while students from Years 2 and 3 represented the school in the Secondary Regionals.

The WMC brought together top young mathematicians from international schools in Singapore, and our students rose to the challenge with determination, teamwork, and passion. Our school is proud of the 21 participants, all of whom dedicated time and effort in preparation for these regionals. They are listed in the tables below.

Secondary Regionals Competition	
Kwak Taehun	2 LSG
Kim Geonwoo	2 SVM
Kim Seoha	2 TTK
Cheng Nuo	2 TTK
Lee Xin Ze Lucas	2 LSG
Wilson Ho	2 SVM
Seong Yeonwoo Brian	3 THO
Kim Jeeyoo	3 OLD
Zhang Yuhan	3 LSG

Senior Regionals Competition	
Park Yoonha	4 SVM
Ashton Mikael Gozali	4 TCT
Zou Ziyuan	4 LSG
Yu Haoxuan	5 LSG
Jin Zixuan	5 TTK
Lin Ziting	5 CKS
Jayden Christian Budiman	5 SVM
Lee Hyeonjoon	5 LSG
Tetsushi Aoyama	5 TCT
Cheng Tin Wing	5 TTK
Sung Geonwoo	5 LSG
Lee Seungah	5 LSG

Out of the 20 Golden Tickets that were awarded exclusively to outstanding mathematicians in the Senior Regionals Competition, we are especially proud to announce that 6 of our students earned the prestigious Golden Ticket. This Golden Ticket grants them the opportunity to attend the WMC Finals at Imperial College London in July this year.

Golden Ticket Recipients	
Park Yoonha	4 SVM
Ashton Mikael Gozali	4 TCT
Yu Haoxuan	5 LSG
Jayden Christian Budiman	5 SVM
Tetsushi Aoyama	5 TCT
Sung Geonwoo	5 LSG

The WMC challenges students not only on individual problem-solving skills but also on collaboration and creative thinking in mathematics. Participation in such an esteemed competition is a significant achievement in itself, and we commend all our students for their dedication, enthusiasm, and strong representation of ACS (International).

The World Mathematics Championship (WMC) was a wonderful opportunity to explore mathematics in a fun and unique way. Unlike traditional mathematics Olympiads, this year's WMC consisted of multiple fast-paced and exciting mathematical games that required students to think outside of the box to find creative solutions to novel problems. From the strategic duels to the enigmatic codebreaker rounds and challenging crypto activities, WMC unlocked a deeper and more passionate understanding of mathematics. Additionally, WMC gave me the chance to mingle and connect with other like-minded lovers of mathematics. At the end of the day, many of our students were recognised with awards for their excellence in the various competition categories. Congratulations to all our winners and see you next year!

Jayden Christian Budiman (5 SVM)

On 22 February, our team participated in the World Mathematics Championships held at UWC South East Asia (East Campus). This full-day event featured exciting competitions and engaging activities which tested our mathematical abilities and teamwork. My personal favourite was the Pursuit Round, where we had to solve eight challenging problems within an hour.

Through a range of activities from constructing a small catapult and deciphering coded patterns, we strengthened our communication, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. Contrary to the common perception that mathematics is purely about solving equations and calculating numbers, this competition demonstrated that it also requires creativity, strategy and even physical abilities. By the end of the day, we were completely exhausted but happy. This experience changed my perspective towards mathematics, showing me that it is not just about numbers but also about innovation, synergy, and, most importantly, having fun.

Seong Yoonwoo Brian (3 THO)

ACS (International) 139th Founder's Day and 20th Birthday Celebrations

Weeks of diligent preparation and rehearsals finally came to fruition on Friday 28 February 2025, when ACS (International) celebrated the 139th ACS Founder's Day as well as its 20th anniversary. The ACS (International) Sports Hall came alive at 8.30am that day as the Founder's Day celebrations commenced with the flag parade, comprising the Singapore flag, ACS Flag, House Flags, and the flags representing the various nationalities of our student body, all played to the accompanying White Falcon (Medley) played by the ACS (International) Philharmonic Orchestra.

After the National Anthem, and Singapore Pledge, came a passionate rendition of the hymn To God Be The Glory. Then Principal Mr Gavin Kinch delivered his address commemorating the history of the founding of ACS, and the subsequent founding of ACS (International), and the role the school had played in the holistic and international-minded education. After the Contemporary Singers sang the Chris Tomlin piece Amazing Grace, Rev Jeremy Ong, pastor-in-charge of Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC) delivered the Founder's Day and 20th birthday greetings from Bishop Philip Lim, Methodist Bishop of Singapore. This was then followed by a rendition of Coldplay classics from the ACS (International) Wind Band, and Mr Andrew Kam delivering the greetings from the ACS OBA.

Our spirits rose after the Philharmonic Orchestra delivered a stirring rendition of Baba Yetu, the title piece of the video game Civilisation IV, setting the stage for the speech by the Guest of Honour, Rev Anthony Lee, pastor-in-charge of Pentecost Methodist Church. Rev Lee reflected on his days as an ACS alumnus and highlighted how the diversity of the ACS (International) student body set the stage for building internationally-minded alumni who were leaders in various fields and endeavours since their graduation from the school. He also highlighted how past ACS alumni such as the late Dr Goh Keng Swee, the late President SR Nathan, and current President Tharman Shanmugaratnam had distinguished themselves in leadership and public service.

Rev Lee then expounded on Psalm 139 and exhorted all present to put their trust in God for their future, especially as they remember three important points from his homily:

1. God knows everything about us and our needs;
2. God knows the end from the beginning;
3. God knows the future and each person's potential.

The video entries of the Inter-House Film Festival were then showed, and Dr Kristopher Joseph Achter, Vice Principal (Junior Division) then presented prizes to the top three winners:

- 1st place – GHK
- 2nd place – TCT
- 3rd place – CKS

The Contemporary Singers then rounded off the celebrations with their rendition of In Christ Alone, after which the ACS OBA and Tan Chin Tuan Integrity Awards were presented to the following current and past students:

ACS OBA Award (Gold)

Declan Loh Kin Shin (6 TCT 2024)
Cheng Ting Wing (4 TTK 2024)

ACS OBA Award (Silver)

Om Nitin Acharekar (6 CKS 2024)
Sophie Beh (4 SVM 2024)

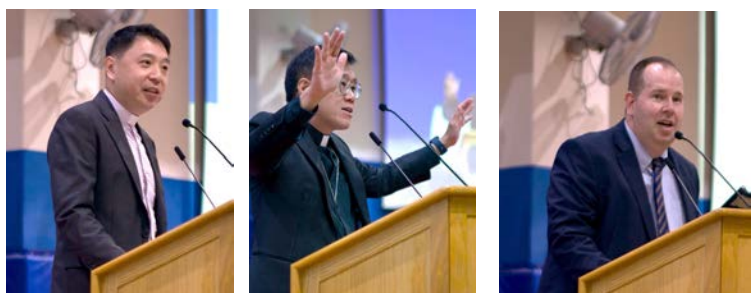
Tan Chin Tuan Integrity Award

Aryan Asri (6 TCT 2024)



Video montages comprising photographs from past years in the school, and 20th birthday greetings from past alumni and current students then followed.

The Founder's Day celebrations came to an end after a painting by Emma Siow and Hong Young Rou, showing a griffin-like creature majestically surveying the past milestones of the ACS journey, while looking bravely and confidently into the future, was then presented to Rev Lee.



The ACS (International) celebrations then got off to rousing start with a video showing Mr Gavin Kinch having a meal outside the school when he is suddenly informed that he needs to be present back at school for the Founder's Day and 20th anniversary celebrations. The video showed Mr Kinch quickly racing back to school, amid obstacles. A large cake decorated with photos from past years in the school was unveiled and everyone present received a slice of the ACS (International) 20th birthday cake.

The rest of the day was devoted to a spectacular ACSprit de Corps presentation of student talent as well as great food offerings for one and all.

All in all, it was a truly stunning end to the ACS (International) 139th Founder's Day and 20th birthday celebrations. The Best Is Yet To Be!



ACS (International) Chamber Orchestra Performance – Echoes Through Time

The DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at the Esplanade came alive for nearly 2 hours on Friday 28 February when the ACS (International) Chamber Orchestra gave two performances that evening. The performances were part of the Cool Classics programme and a fitting way to celebrate the school's 20th birthday.

ACS (International) Principal Mr Gavin Kinch introduced the performances and then the emcee, Kiss92 DJ and ACS (International) alumnus Shawnia Seah took over. Under the capable and charismatic baton of Maestro Lim Soon Lee, the orchestra wasted no time as they led everyone into a spirited rendition of Johann Strauss's Radetzky March, which was then adroitly followed by Journey to Zargon from Final Fantasy 10.

Ms Samantha Choong then led the Wind Band in a tribute to the days of good old rock and roll and jukebox dance with a medley of the old hits Venus, Love Me Tender and Rock Round the Clock before the orchestra and Maestro Lim returned to enthral the audience with the haunting melody of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake, followed by Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 5, after which came a string arrangement of the Van Halen hit Dreams. The performances were so passionately played that a string of one of the violins snapped!

Shawnia and the orchestra then came on board to stir our hearts as she sang the song For Forever from Dear Evan Hansen. Yang Cheng Wei's Singapore Medley was next as the audience hummed and tapped their feet as the orchestra played the medley of Di Tanjong Katong, Oh Singapore, Munneru Valiba, and many other local favourites.

But Maestro Lim saved the best for last as he moved on to the Grammy-winning video game score of Baba Yetu from the video game Civilisation IV, before rounding off the performance to the claps and applause accompanying Offenbach's Orpheus in the Underworld, popularly known as the Can-can.

This was no doubt an evening to remember as everyone left the Outdoor Theatre full of praise for the Orchestra's musical prowess, the capable leadership of Maestro Lim and Ms Cheong, and the lovely support everyone enjoyed.

Happy 20th birthday ACS (International)! The Best Is Yet To Be!



Oldham Crowned Sports Day 2025 Champions

Heartfelt thanks to the Physical Education (PE) department for the enormous effort that went into the smooth running and organisation of the annual ACS (International) Sports Day this year. The parent supporters, the wonderful weather, the hard work of the staff and student leaders, all contributed to a very successful event.

Sports Day 2025 was a thrilling one and a day to cherish, and Oldham is delighted to have won the overall championship! From the first event to the final relay, our team gave it their all, showing commitment, determination, and sportsmanship. It was not just about winning the races and scoring points, but also the application of effort, team spirit, and unwavering encouragement of each other. All that morning (6 March), Oldham athletes pushed themselves to the limit, on the track, in the field events, or cheering others in the stands. Each sprint, each jump, and each throw demonstrated hard work as we attended each practice. Even when it was challenging, we were there for each other, demonstrating that victory is not nearly as much about personal talent as it is about encouraging each other like a team.

The highlight of the day were the relay races. With every baton handover, tension mounted and when we crossed the finishing line, the energy and pride of Oldham House was not in doubt. Cheers from our teammates and supporters generated an electric atmosphere.

Winning Sports Day is one that we will forever cherish, but most importantly, it has taught us the principles of perseverance, friendship, and determination. An enormous thank you to our supporters, students, and teachers who made this all possible. Oldham, this victory is for everyone, and we couldn't have achieved this without each other!

Arunima Jaitawat (2 OLD)



Sports Day Cheer 2025

On 5 March, parents and guardians from all eight Houses of ACS (International) gathered to create vibrant “cheer” posters. Their goal was to design bright, oversized signs to inspire and support student-athletes as they competed in the annual Sports Day event at ACJC the next day (6 March).

In the weeks leading up to the event, parents eagerly collaborated online, designing graphics to complement their poster masterpieces. While the Parent School Partners (PSP) provided tools and materials, many also prepared trinkets and decorations from home to bring extra spirit to Sports Day Cheer. A friendly design competition was already beginning to take shape!

For two hours, John Wesley Hall buzzed with energy as nearly 20 parents – many meeting in person for the first time – worked in small teams, adding a creative sports-themed twist to their designs. Despite the initial unfamiliarity, the parents were pleasantly surprised by how much fun they had, sharing laughs and looking forward to the big day.

Thank you, parents, for adding glitter and excitement to Sports Day 2025. Your presence and involvement not only brightens this activity but shows an undeniable care for your child’s engagement at school. We look forward to meeting you at our next PSP workshop in Term 2!

PSP Exco



Feasting, Fun and Fond Memories

This year marks a momentous milestone in the history of ACS (International) as we celebrated the 20th birthday of the school on 28 February. Themed “Honouring the Past, Shaping the Future”, the event was a heartfelt tribute to the school’s rich journey, remarkable achievements, and radiant aspirations. By 8am that day, the Sports Hall was already bustling with more than 1,000 students, teachers, staff, alumni, church members of Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC) and Parent School Partners (PSP) Exco members and parent volunteers, waiting to commemorate the day with inspiring speeches by the Principal Mr Gavin Kinch and Guest of Honour, Rev. Anthony Lee, followed by a big birthday blowout of 1,000 cake slices and special performances by students.

This was followed by a massive school-wide group photo at the sports field and ACSprit de Corps – a food-and-drinks carnival extravaganza, courtesy of PSP which covered the student centre and canteen areas. At the basketball court, students battled it out with creative House challenges while enjoying a cup of refreshing bubble tea, thanks to HVMC. It was an unforgettable event that was made possible with the unwavering support and contributions of over 60 dedicated PSP Exco and parent volunteers.

Wishing ACS International many more years of greatness and success! Congratulations & Happy Founder’s Day.

PSP Exco



Being a new parent at ACS (International), I jumped at the chance to sign up as a volunteer for the ACSprit de Corps when the link was made available. What better way to get to know the school and community than through volunteering? Though I originally signed up to help with grilled cheese, I was asked if I could assist with sliders instead, as more help was needed. I gamely agreed as I was happy to pitch in wherever the team needed the most support. The process of procuring fresh ingredients for the preparation was nothing compared to the actual event. The teamwork among the slider team parents was incredible from the start. From slicing tomatoes to assembling the sliders and serving them to staff and students, everything went smoothly without a hitch. Despite the ‘labour intensive’ tasks, we had an absolute blast, making merry while making sliders to feed our stall visitors. At the end of the event, the slider team celebrated our ‘accomplishment’ with an ice cream cone each, followed by warm and sweaty hugs, congratulating each other on a job well done!

Personally, volunteering at this event was a truly enriching experience. It was inspiring to see first-hand the closeness of the school community. I especially enjoyed the camaraderie among all the volunteers. What stood out for me most was how well-mannered and polite the students were and it was evident that the right values are being instilled in them. The moment that really warmed my heart was when one of the students came to our stall at the end of the event to personally thank us for volunteering our time. This simple act of gratitude meant so much!

A huge thank you to the PSP for giving new parents like me an opportunity to volunteer alongside such wonderful parents, and those meaningful interaction with staff, alumni and students of the school.

Lastly, I’d like to extend my heartfelt congratulations and a special blessing for ACS International on its 20th Birthday celebration! Here’s to many more great years, THE BEST IS YET TO BE, TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Alicia Israel, Year 1 Parent of Zoe Israel



As an ACS Mum for 12 years, it gave me great pride and joy to serve in my last Founder's Day at ACS. Looking back, it has been an incredible journey filled with many wonderful memories, hours of sweat and tears and ultimately, immense joy whenever the plans that have been put in place come to fruition. This year was no exception. Being a part of ACS (International)'s ACSprit de Corps was a great privilege and honour, especially as a cake bearer for my children's House, SVM. What struck me most was that as I was serving the cake to all the students of SVM, willing hands and hearts stepped forward and helped me distribute the cakes with smiles and happy faces, in the dark, no less. It spoke volumes of the level of initiative and serving spirits these students have and I know it would have made the founders of the school proud of the sterling young people they are cultivating till this day.

As I reflect over all that the school has done and will continue to do for their students and their families, I am filled with gratitude to have been a part of the ACS family for so long and made many wonderful friendships. So, Happy Founder's Day, ACS, and a very blessed 20th birthday, ACS (International). May God continue to bless the work of your hands as you seek tirelessly to grow and develop young minds and steely spirits with hearts of compassion!

Liza Tay, Year 6 Parent of Allison and Zachary Tan

As a Year 1 parent, it was a deeply meaningful experience to participate in ACSprit de Corps. I felt the strong sense of community at ACS (International), and I am grateful to have been involved in such a vibrant and wonderful event. Helping out with the balloon team and the drink team was both fun and rewarding. Inflating and shaping the balloons, preparing and serving lime juice, and carrying out these tasks alongside enthusiastic volunteers gave me a real sense of unity in striving to make the event a success. It was heartwarming to see the students, teachers, and alumni enjoying themselves.

One of the most memorable moments was seeing my son wearing the ACS (International) blazer. When we moved from Japan to Singapore in 2021, my son could not speak English, and now, seeing him grow and become a part of ACS (International), I was truly overjoyed. Watching him and his friends enjoy this wonderful event, I could strongly feel the values and traditions that ACS (International) holds dear.

I hope that ACS (International) will continue to nurture this incredible sense of unity and community spirit in the future. I also look forward to staying actively involved and carrying the experiences gained from this event with me.

Mika Yoshinari, Year 1 Parent of Shusei Yoshinari



Students Performance at IB Conference 2025

On 20th March, we were honoured to be offered an opportunity to perform during the Opening ceremony of the IB Global Conference held in Singapore, showcasing the intercultural fusion of our school, playing the Guzheng, cello and violin. It is truly our privilege to be part of this event which shares with the audience a blend of both Western and Chinese instruments. As the representative speaker, I was especially thrilled to be given the chance to deliver and convey our message in front of the crowd, and collaborate with my team to express the graceful melodies of our song. At the end of the performance, it was certain that we had reaped the fruits of our labour, and it was definitely worth it all. Gratefully, the performance was warmly welcomed by our priceless audience.

Throughout the experience, we were fortunate to have the guidance and support of the many teachers that sacrificed their time to help us prepare our performance. Of course, we could never forget our principal, Mr Kinch, who had presented us the golden opportunity of performing for everyone at the IB global conference. Last but not least, I would like to thank my wonderful teammates, Matthew, Sophie and Yifan for the countless sacrificed hours and encouragement during the practice. We hope everyone enjoyed our performance as much as we did!

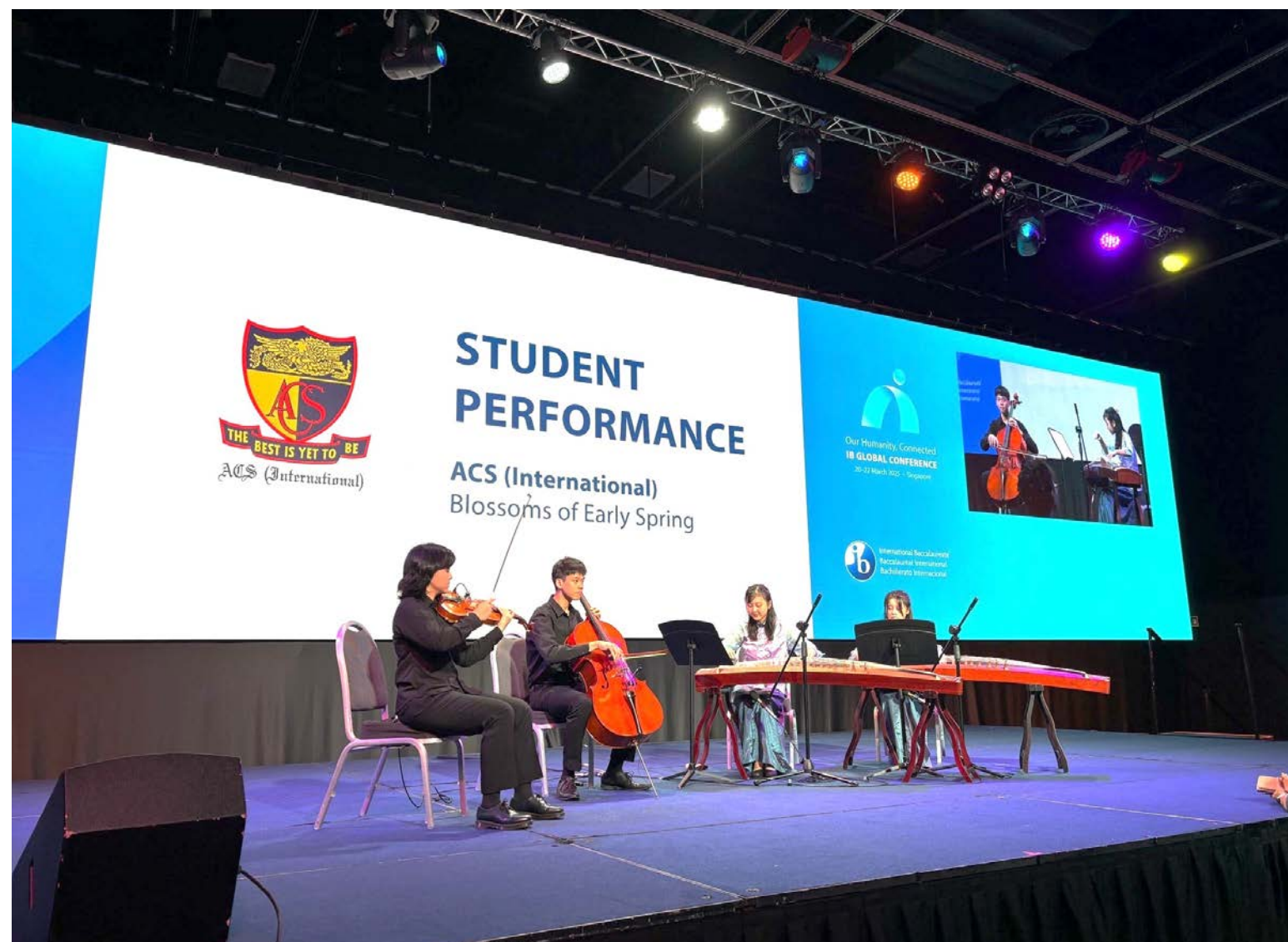
Performers:

Lo Cheuk Chun Amina 4THO

Wen Yifan 4THO

Lee Chia-wei Sophie 6THO

Yeung Ching Hei Matthew 6SVM



HL Business Management Students Explore Social Enterprises

The HL Business Management students had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of social enterprises through an insightful visit to Bettr Coffee, Singapore's first certified B-Corp coffee company.

The Year 5 students visited on 13 and 17 February 2025, while the Year 6 students explored the enterprise on 25 March. The experience provided valuable real-world insights into how social enterprises operate, the human needs they address, and the challenges they face in remaining sustainable. Students learnt about Bettr Coffee's mission to empower disadvantaged individuals by providing barista training and employment opportunities. The visit allowed them to examine the company's long-term strategies for maintaining financial and social sustainability, equipping them with key concepts relevant to their Business Management curriculum.

A special highlight for the Year 6 students was a Latte Art session, where they practiced the craft of creating intricate designs in coffee. This hands-on activity not only enhanced their appreciation for the skill and dedication required in the industry but also provided valuable context for their Paper 3, which focuses on social enterprises.

This enriching experience reinforced the students' understanding of the role of social enterprises in bridging business with social good, leaving them inspired by the impact such models can create in the world.



HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

24 Feb Deep Dive: US Apps, Insights from Alumni and Live Q & A

We hosted Ashley Mya Gozali (6 TCT 2024) for this deep dive session during lunch. Ashley received an offer from Boston College during the US Early application round. Here are some insights she shared with students who attended.



“When crafting your activities list and honours/awards for US applications, I believe it is important to choose activities that you truly enjoy. Balancing IB and college applications is incredibly time consuming and difficult at times. There will be moments when you will need to put in extra hours and sacrifice your down time. However, by committing to activities and responsibilities that you are truly passionate about and have fun doing, you will still enjoy the process no matter how tiring it may be. Moreover, stay true to yourself! Colleges want to know who you are, what you value, and how your personality, goals, and values will match with the school’s. The more you know yourself, the more admissions will know about you! “



7 March Deep Dive : Applying US Early, Oxbridge and Crafting a Portfolio

We hosted David Kim Sunbin (6 SVM 2024), who has enrolled in University of Chicago and Om Nitin Acharekar (6 CKS 2024), University of Cambridge offer holder, for a lunchtime talk. It was fascinating to see how David and Om had such different experiences and approaches to their US and UK applications—each equally valid in its own way. From a counsellor’s perspective, it’s a great reminder that there’s no single “correct” path. With so much advice out there—both online and in person—it is important to be mindful. Take what resonates, leave what doesn’t, and always feel free to check in with the Higher Ed team if you are unsure. We are here to help, and we have the most up-to-date information to guide you through.



3 March UPenn Alumni Sharing Session, How to Prepare a Solid US App

We hosted Mr Shakti Desai in March for a sharing session on his experience at UPenn and how students can prepare an outstanding US application. Shakti holds an MBA from INSEAD and a dual degree in Finance & Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. As a UPenn alumni interviewer for over 10 years, he has in-depth knowledge of the admissions process.

Our students were deeply engaged in the sharing and shared positive feedback after the session.

“It was the best talk I have ever attended. It inspired me to go to UPenn”
 “I will make sure to request for teacher recommendations early and fully engage in class and class work.”
 “I will brainstorm unique extracurriculars according to my interests.”
 “I will organise my time well, gaining unique experiences along the way.”



For Students Applying to the US

Activities – Numbers matter. With admissions officers reading thousands of applications, quantifying your impact helps your activities stand out. Use action verbs and aim to highlight a few high-impact commitments that show leadership, initiative, or sustained involvement.

SAT – If you're considering submitting SAT scores, aim to take the test earlier in Year 6—especially if you're planning to apply Early Action or Early Decision. This will help you manage your workload and avoid piling on stress toward the end of the year.

Thinking of Applying to Oxbridge? :

Oxbridge is looking for more than just top grades—they want to see how you think. There's no perfect answer, but successful applicants are those who can communicate their thoughts clearly, show intellectual curiosity, and demonstrate a teachable mindset. The process is holistic, with a strong emphasis on academic exploration beyond the classroom.

UK Personal Statement

It matters—but don't let it take over your time. A well-written statement should show your motivation and subject interest, but remember: preparing for admissions tests is just as important.

Oxbridge Interview Tips

They're looking for logical, reflective thinkers. Stay on topic, answer concisely, and don't be afraid to pause and gather your thoughts. It's not about having all the answers—it's about how you approach a problem.

Supercurriculars (go beyond the syllabus) for UK Applications:

- Wide reading in your chosen subject
- Research (including IAs/EE but not limited to these)
- Online courses or MOOCs
- Independent projects (blogs, apps, simulations)
- Subject-relevant internships
- Awards or competitions (especially those you can reflect on deeply)
- Olympiads, Essay Competitions, Model United Nations (MUN), Debates, Hackathons

Preparing for the Interview

The interview isn't about getting everything "right"—it's about how you think. Show genuine enthusiasm and curiosity for your chosen subject. Be prepared to explore ideas, question assumptions, and think critically under pressure.

Portfolio Tips

There is no one-size-fits-all approach. Some students present a wide range of activities, others show deep commitment in one area. A strong portfolio often strikes a balance between both. Most importantly, it should reflect a clear theme that connects to who you are and what drives you.

Different Starting Points

- David began by listing his key activities and honours to build the foundation of his application.
- Om started with his essays, using them to shape the narrative for the rest of his materials.

Find what works best for you—but make sure all parts of your application speak to your passion, purpose, and potential.

11 March – Year 4 Students visit to EHL, NTU, SIM and SMU

EHL – École hôtelière de Lausanne
 NTU – Nanyang Technological University
 SIM – Singapore Institute of Management
 SMU – Singapore Management University

There is something special about stepping onto a university campus—feeling the energy of student life, engaging in real lectures, and seeing learning in action. That is what our students (and staff) experienced during our recent university visits on 11 March 2025, and it was nothing short of eye-opening. Each student visited one university in the morning before returning to school to share their experiences.

From mock lectures that sparked new interests to career games that got students thinking beyond the classroom, and even just grabbing lunch on campus like a real **university** student, every moment was a glimpse into their future. Seeing our students come away more curious, more informed, and more inspired—that's the real win.

After returning to school, students shared their personal reflections and photos from the morning visits. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to learn about the universities they didn't get to visit and to hear first-hand experiences from their peers. The exchange of insights made the afternoon both informative and meaningful, enriching the experience for all.



Visit to Nanyang Technological University (NTU)



Our Alumni at NTU



Visit to Nanyang Technological University (NTU)



Visit to Singapore Management University (SMU)



Ayush Deb,
 ACS (International) alumni
 currently studying at SMU



Visit to Singapore Management University (SMU)



Visit to SIM Global Education



Visit to the EHL Campus in Singapore



Visit to the EHL Campus in Singapore

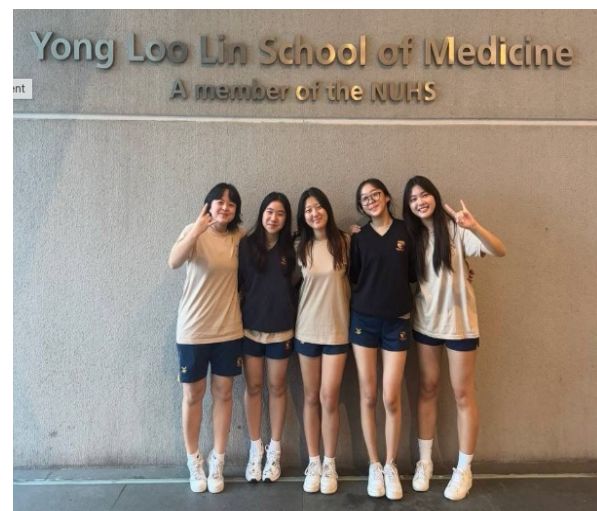
Youth Health Ambassadors Programme (YHAP) at NUS

During the March School Holidays, Haeram (6 SVM), Seojin (6 THO), Sophie (6 THO), Sumiyo (6 TCT), and Yunyu (6 OLD) attended a three-day Youth Health Ambassadors Programme (YHAP) at NUS. It was an incredibly meaningful and insightful experience for them.

Throughout the programme, we gained valuable knowledge about healthcare, participated in engaging activities, such as debating, to discuss on various topics across the health field, e.g., mental health, metabolic syndrome, communicable diseases, etc., with students around our age, and learned more about the medical field. It was not only educational but also very inspiring, especially for students interested in pursuing medicine in the future. It really stood out compared to other programmes, and we think it's something more students would love to experience if they had the chance. Look out for more of such event invites via your ACS email. Since we really enjoyed the programme, we genuinely hope that more students can learn about and take part in such opportunities in the future. Unlike other programmes where it can be difficult to connect with students from different schools, YHAP gave us the chance to make many new friends from various JCs and polytechnics across Singapore. This made the experience even more enriching, and we feel that more students would love to be part of it if they knew about it.



Visit to SIM Global Education



Upcoming Higher Education & Career events in April

- Higher Education Fair on 7 April 2025.
- Year 4 Parents Info Session: Higher Ed's Perspective on Subject Combination – Virtual Session on April 1, from 4:30pm to 5pm. where we will focus on how IB subject choices relate to university admissions. Registration and zoom link has been emailed to parents in the week of 17 March.
- Year 6 Parents Info Session: Planning Ahead – Virtual Session on April 2, from 4:30pm to 5.15pm, where we will discuss university preparation matters and what lies ahead for your child. Registration and zoom link has been emailed to parents in the week of 17 March.



Visit to the EHL Campus in Singapore

Job Shadowing Programme (17 to 21 March 2025)

The immersive Job Shadowing programme offers students a unique opportunity to gain first-hand insight into the professional world, enhancing their teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving skills in real-world environments. It nurtures inquirers who are eager to explore unfamiliar industries, and communicators who learn to engage meaningfully with professionals across diverse fields. By observing workplace dynamics and reflecting on their experiences, students develop a deeper understanding of their personal interests and strengths — hallmarks of the reflective learner. Above all, the programme encourages students to act with integrity and respect in professional settings, embodying what it means to be principled. More significantly, it has helped many students solidify their career aspirations and map out their higher education pathways beyond the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

During the week-long March break, a record 63 senior division students explored various industries through job shadowing — a remarkable achievement in such a short time. Among them, 21 students gained exposure to medical institutions and veterinary practices, while 19 delved into the commercial sector, spanning Business & Operations, Sales & Marketing, Communication & Media, and Finance. Additionally, 13 students explored Engineering, 6 immersed themselves in the legal field, and others ventured into diverse industries.

Overall, the Job Shadowing programme transformed the holiday into an enriching and purposeful experience.



Published with permission from CPG Consultants Pte Ltd

L-R: Ms Ong Yan Xiang, Yugo Endo (5 TKK) and Marek Hashimoto (5 TCT)

“Working at CPG was an unforgettable experience that taught me a lot about what engineering is all about. Doing tasks for both mechanical and electrical engineering departments as well as attending an external meeting further expanded my knowledge and learned how to apply my studies into my job in the future. In 1 week, talking to people in the company really gave me insightful advice to what I can major in university later on. Now, I am clearer about what I am to do after IB and even after graduating from university.”

Marek Hashimoto (5 TCT)

Job Shadowing Programme – Visit to Newly Onboarded Industry Partner

Synesys Technologies Holding is a privately held investment group focused on strategic investments in high-technology companies in connectivity solutions, knowledge based engineering and value-added manufacturing for the electronics industry. The Synesys Group comprises of MEDs Technologies, Verotronic Technologies, Creideas and ArQana Technologies.

On 6 March 2025, Junita and I had the privilege of visiting Mr Seah Tong Heng and his team at Synesys Technologies Holding Pte Ltd. During our visit, we gained valuable insights into their organisational structure, business operations and areas of expertise. Additionally, we toured their facilities, witnessing first-hand the innovative technologies and advanced manufacturing processes that drive their success.



Published with permission from Synesys Technologies Holding Pte Ltd

Back row (L-R): Dr Mohamed Lebbai Ph.D, Mr Ken Lim and Mr Seah Tong Heng
Front row (L-R): Ms Junita Sockalingam and Ms Yap Lin Lin



Published with permission from Synesys Technologies Holding Pte Ltd

Back row (L-R): Mr Ken Lim and Dr Mohamed Lebbai Ph.D
Front row (L-R): Ms Junita Sockalingam and Ms Yap Lin Lin



Published with permission from Pets Avenue Veterinary Clinic
L-R: - Mr Germono Robert De Vera, Teo Ziping Pamelyn Teo (5 GHK)

“The five days I spent shadowing at Pets Avenue Beauty World were incredibly valuable and rewarding. Observing various procedures and consultations allowed me to see the dedication and expertise required in veterinary medicine, deepening my passion to pursue a career as a veterinarian in the future. I gained insight into not only the medical aspects of animal care, but also the importance of empathy and communication in this industry. The vets and staff at Pets Avenue were supportive and caring, giving their all to provide the best care for their patients and clients. It was an unforgettable experience, and I hope to utilise what I have learnt to prepare myself for my journey ahead.”

Pamelyn Teo (5 GHK)

We are excited to announce that **Synesys Technologies is looking to host two students for a job shadowing experience during the May/June holidays.** This opportunity will provide our students with hands-on industry exposure and a deeper understanding of high-tech engineering solutions.

This collaboration marks the beginning of an exciting partnership, and we look forward to seeing our students benefit from this enriching experience.

Academic Enrichment Programme: Preparing Year 5 and 6 Students for IB Success

The Academic Enrichment Programme (AEP) held on 10 and 11 March 2025 was a pivotal event in the academic journey of Year 5 and 6 students, aiming to equip them with the tools for success in the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum. Focused on the Extended Essay (EE), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS), and Theory of Knowledge (TOK) IB Core components, the two-day event offered valuable insights and practical experience in these key areas.

IB Core Launch and Implementation

The programme began with Year 5 students participating in the EE Launch. This session introduced them to the EE syllabus, research methodologies, and the process of topic selection. A key highlight was the EE Café, where students attended presentations by Heads of Faculty and subject representatives, gaining discipline-specific insights into EE expectations and research strategies. This interactive session provided students with an understanding of how to approach research across different subjects.

In addition to EE, Year 5 students engaged in CAS Project planning, collaborating with peers from diverse cultural backgrounds. They worked together to refine and develop their projects, focusing on creativity, leadership, and social responsibility. These discussions allowed students to apply their learning to real-world challenges while gaining a deeper appreciation of cross-cultural perspectives.

A notable highlight for Year 5 was the TOK and Collaboration Science Project at Pasir Ris Park. Students explored TOK concepts such as Evidence, Interpretation, Justification, and Perspective while examining the theme of Knowledge and Technology. The project posed the question: How do the tools we use shape the knowledge we produce? Through field studies, students debated whether technology merely extends human senses or introduces fundamentally new ways of perceiving the world. This hands-on experience linked the TOK Knowledge Framework: Methods and Tools, and Ethics, with real-world applications, enhancing students' understanding of academic theory in practice.

For Year 6 students, the focus of the programme was on intensive support for their EE writing. With guidance from faculty mentors, students worked on structuring and refining their research papers, ensuring adherence to IB standards. Teachers provided critical feedback on areas such as analysis, citation practices, and academic writing coherence, reinforcing the importance of scholarly rigor and discipline.

Intercultural Learning and Global Perspectives

Intercultural learning was a central theme throughout the programme. Students discussed how cultural contexts influence research methodologies and knowledge construction, particularly in TOK sessions. The CAS initiatives emphasised local and/or global engagement, with students encouraged to design projects that address international and cross-cultural issues. These sessions fostered a deeper understanding of the global impact of academic work, encouraging students to think beyond local contexts and engage with worldwide perspectives. We look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of our IB learners as they apply the insights gained through this programme in their academic pursuits and beyond.

"The AEP was a great opportunity for the students to come together to interact and at the same gather a good understanding of EE and have a gauge on the timelines." – *Arielle Loh (5 THO)*

"Through the Year 5 AEP programme, I learnt a lot of valuable insights into many of the IB core programme such as the EE and CAS. It was a valuable experience to come together with my friends and plan our CAS project and brainstorm our EEs. We also got to visit Pasir Ris Park as part of our CSP and it was such an engaging two days!" – *Sophie Beh (5 SVM)*



Term 1 Birthday Celebration & Games Day at Oldham Hall

The birthday celebration for Term 1 at Oldham Hall Boarding House on 11 March provided a much-needed break from the hustle and bustle of exams and studying. It was a perfect opportunity to unwind and enjoy some lighthearted fun with friends. The spread of food was impressive, featuring everything from delicious pizza to indulgent brownies and an assortment of mouthwatering pastries. My friend and I could not resist, and we ended up eating so much that we had to skip dinner as we were stuffed!

The Games Day, held on the same day, was equally enjoyable. The Assistant House Masters (AHMs) and borders had put together a fantastic array of fun and creative activities. It was the perfect chance to bond with my fellow boarders, laughing and chatting while engaging in the friendly competition. The energy was high, and the games were lighthearted, making it easy for everyone to participate and have a great time.

The food prepared by Oldham Hall was exceptional, as always, and really added to the overall festive atmosphere. Both events were incredibly well-organized and executed, and I am truly grateful for the hard work and dedication of the people who took the time to plan and coordinate everything. These celebrations not only provided a welcome respite but also fostered a sense of community and camaraderie among us all.

Jenny Kennedy (3 CKS)



THIMUN Reflections

ACS (International) sent a group to The 57th Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) earlier this year, and Aryav Bhesania (6 CKS) did us proud by taking on the role of Deputy Secretary-General. Below is his account of his experiences.

THIMUN at The Hague is the pinnacle of any Model UN journey. It is the world's second-largest Model United Nations (MUN) conference and welcomes more than 4,000 delegates annually to the UN World Forum, celebrating diplomacy at the highest level.

This year, I had the immense privilege of serving as Deputy Secretary-General, a position at THIMUN's highest executive level. Over five months, I worked closely with officers to ensure seamless logistics, refine procedural knowledge, and guide research efforts. But the defining moment came when I was invited to meet and be interviewed by the world's most influential policymakers, including the former Dutch Prime Minister, Dutch Ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs, the head of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), and the ex-US Consul General. Among these discussions, my interview with the Secretary-General of NATO stood out as a defining moment. The discussion focused on adapting NATO to strategic competition, cyber warfare, and evolving deterrence. I emphasised the need for NATO to treat cyberattacks on critical infrastructure as potential triggers for Article 5, marking a shift toward a digitally resilient alliance. This discussion will shape youth perspectives on security and be featured at the 2025 NATO Summit, where more than 5,000 global diplomats, including 80 world leaders and presidents, will convene.

Beyond policy, THIMUN 2025 reaffirmed my belief in diplomacy's power. From guiding delegates in advanced committees like NATO, the ICC, and the Security Council to witnessing resolutions take shape, this experience was one of profound growth. Not just about diplomacy on paper, THIMUN was about preparing the next generation to navigate and lead in a complex global landscape. As I sign off from this role, being my last conference after a lengthy run, I leave with a deep appreciation for the power of international cooperation and the belief that young minds, when given the right platform, can shape the future of diplomacy.

Yielding the floor to the next generation of Model UN-inspired diplomats,

Aryav Bhesania

Deputy Secretary-General, 57th Session of The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN)



Student Reflection on Watching A Doll's House

On 12 March, I had the opportunity to watch *A Doll's House, Part 2*, written by Lucas Hnath. The play is a sequel to the play *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. ACS (International) Year 5 English A students and teachers gathered at the Victoria Theatre, buzzing with anticipation to see what had happened 15 years after Nora Helmer, the heroine of the original play, slammed the door and left everything behind to find herself.

The play explores themes of identity, societal norms, and expectations. It made me think about how much the world has changed since the 1870s, when the original play was set, and how some of the same struggles still exist today. What made Part 2 compelling was that it didn't just focus on Nora's journey, but also gave voice to the people she left behind. Torvald, once the embodiment of patriarchy, was not just a villain, but was conflicted, hurt, and human. Anne Marie, the nanny who had to take care of the mess left behind, showed what it was like for people who didn't have the privilege of walking away. Then there was Emmy, Nora's daughter, all grown up, with her own strong opinions. She was not just the abandoned child, but had built a life of her own, and her perspective on marriage and independence clashed with Nora's.

One of the things I loved most was how the play balanced sharp humour with deep, thought-provoking moments. The dialogue was fast-paced and witty, making the heavy themes more digestible while still packing an emotional punch. The actors brought so much energy to their roles, making it easy to connect with each character. The minimalist set design also stood out, as it did not distract from the story but instead kept the focus on the intense conversations unfolding on stage.

Reflecting on the experience, I found myself questioning my own views on independence, responsibility, and what it means to truly be free. Nora's story is often seen as empowering, but Part 2 made me realise that freedom isn't just about leaving but is also about what comes after.

All in all, I really enjoyed the play, and I would like to thank the English Faculty for giving us this amazing opportunity.

Wong Wei Zhe (Pasquale) (5 OLD)



Service at Willing Hearts

Students from Oldham House have been volunteering at Willing Hearts for more than 6 years, and the number of students who attended such visits has grown. Yearly, we have put in efforts to raise funds for the organisation, and this year, we will be organising two such events – Escape Room and Volleyball Cup. If you like to solve puzzles or to have a go at sports, these two events are calling for your support. Every visit I make to Willing Hearts gives me more insights to the amount of effort that goes into helping those in need, as well how many hands each item of food goes through before it reaches the beneficiaries. No visit is ever the same. Every visit gives me new things to learn and to reflect on so that I can come back and contribute more.

At our latest visit, I saw more behind the scenes, not just in preparing food but through packing and cleaning as well. Through all the fish descaling, vegetable chopping, food packing and cleaning, all the hard work becomes more meaningful and rewarding when we are able to help in small ways and be able to do so with my friends. Each visit reminds me of why service is important and teaches me to be more involved within different communities. It is always an **eye-opening** experience whenever I volunteer at Willing Hearts, and I always feel very grateful to be able to help others whenever I can.

Maria Mae Leong Perlusz (5 OLD)



OLDHAM CHARITY PROJECT VOLLEYBALL CUP
SATURDAY MORNING
MAY 3RD

TEAMS OF 6

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
\$48 PER TEAM

Sign up by 11 April to enjoy the early bird discount!

REGULAR PRICE
\$60 PER TEAM

Categories:
 Mixed Boys and Girls (Year 1-3)
 Boys Open Category (Year 4-8)
 Girls Open Category (Year 4-8)

Scan to register!

The winning team will receive attractive prizes!

All proceeds will go to Willing Hearts

ESCAPE ROOM

TEAMS OF 5

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
\$40 per team

REGULAR PRICE: \$50 per team

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES ON 11 APRIL

25 APRIL, 2025
AFTER SCHOOL

Put your skills to the test as the fastest team will be able to win attractive prizes!

Scan to register!

All proceeds will go to Willing Hearts, brought to you by Oldham

Inter-House Film Competition

The Arts & Interest Competition for the Houses took a leap this year, and instead of the usual Chinese New Year decorations, we showed our steadfast loyalty to ACS (International) by organising the Inter-House (IH) Film Competition which has a theme that resonates the 20th Anniversary Celebration. It was a refreshing change as we see a different group of students become engaged and each house showing off their best. A big congratulation to GHK House, who emerged as the winner!

For our film project celebrating the 20th Anniversary of ACS (International), we aimed to honour the school's rich heritage and values. Through incorporating the elements from the movie *Back to the Future*, we highlighted the legacy of our founders and their impact on generations of students.

The project required teamwork, from scriptwriting to filming and editing, and it deepened our appreciation for ACS's traditions. One key challenge was ensuring historical accuracy while keeping the film engaging. We overcame this by conducting research and asking the alumni for inputs.

This project taught me the importance of collaboration and the power of storytelling. It strengthened our sense of belonging and pride in our school community too. Being able to lead such a project has been a great experience. Seeing that our hard work paid off during the announcement of the results at Founder's Day was truly memorable. I can still remember everyone's faces upon hearing that we had won. Overall, it was a meaningful experience that allowed us to celebrate ACS (International)'s legacy in a creative and impactful way.

Kaitlyn Wong (4GHK)

Catch a glimpse of the [video highlights](#), edited by Shunsei Miyasaka (5 OLD).



UPCOMING EVENTS

April	Event
1 – 2	PTMs (online) (All years, no classes)
3	Euclid Maths Contest (Year 6)
5	Open House
7	Higher Education Fair (3-5.30pm)
15	Inter-House Music
15-17	Religious Emphasis Week
18	Good Friday
22	PISA Testing
23	Student Leaders Investiture
25	Oldham Fundraiser (Escape Room)



METHODIST WALK

29 MARCH 2025

ACS (International) will be raising money for the following needs of the school:

1. Student Hardship Fund
2. Oldham Chapel upgrades

We invite all in our ACS (International) community to join us and aim to walk at least 50km in support of the “A Million For a Million” pledge.

We encourage cashless donations through the school’s [Giving.sg](#) campaign page. Donations may also be given via cheque made out to Methodist Schools’ Foundation, with the name of the school clearly indicated on the back.

We look forward to having your fullest support as we come together as a school family for **MethodistWalk 2025**.

Details can be found on the [FAQ](#) and fundraising platform [Giving.sg](#)

Scan here to give



2025
Methodist
Walk

Walk in the Truth of God

Ps 86:11





ACS (International)

A Methodist Institution



OPEN HOUSE

5 April 2025

ACS (International) Singapore is a distinctive international secondary school open to all Singaporeans & other nationalities, offering an all-round English-based education for students aged 12 to 18 years leading to the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).

Senior Leadership Team



Mr Gavin Kinch
Principal



Mrs Tan Siew Hoon
Vice-Principal



Mr Christopher Hayward
Vice-Principal



Dr Kristopher Achter
Vice-Principal

Information Sessions

Session 1

9am – 11am

Session 2

11am – 1pm

**Oldham Chapel,
ACS (International)**

61 Jalan Hitam Manis, Singapore 278475

Visitors only need to attend one session

*For more information,
please contact*

Joseph Ng or Serene Lim

at +65 6472 1477 or

admissions@acsinternational.edu.sg

You may also register your attendance via acs.openapply.com

Attendance by reservations only

GRADUATION CEREMONY

2025

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



ACS (International)

GUEST OF HONOUR

PROF NG WAI HOE

GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SINGHEALTH

15 NOV 2025

SATURDAY

10:00AM

SEATED BY 9:45AM

UNIVERSITY CULTURAL CENTRE,
HO BEE AUDITORIUM,
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE



RSVP by scanning the QR code or clicking on this [link](#) by 3rd November 2025, 12PM.
For enquiry, please contact Ms Jessie Yeung: jessie.yeung@acsinternational.edu.sg