



Notes from the Heads of School

Ms Nancy Roch-Compan, Head of Junior School

The first term of the Academic Year 2016/2017 saw the introduction of a few initiatives in the Junior School.

One of these is the Student Potential Achievement Civic Enterprise (S.P.A.C.E) programme which cultivates and celebrates project-based learning at MIGS. Requiring students to think both analytically and creatively, project work within the S.P.A.C.E programme involves both the left brain and the right brain. It is our belief that education needs to employ both traditional teaching methods, excellent for left brain success, as well as innovative, modern methods in the classroom.

In addition to learning concepts and skills in the classroom, the S.P.A.C.E Programme lays the foundations to equip our students so that in the later years of education, they "can think critically, can deal with unfamiliar, novel situations and problems, and are able to, in that sense, use their skills across different domains as they look at their problems"¹.

This week, I had the rewarding opportunity to witness the first Project Presentations by a group of Upper Junior Students, many of whom showed evidence of deep thinking through their project work. Many had prepared short video animations to present their findings, instead of the mundane PowerPoint presentations. This shows that our students are "also very comfortable in a computer environment"¹.

Better still, the student audience listening to the presentations asked probing and critical questions, as presenters accepted their critiques and acknowledged the limitations of their experimentation. Truly, they were already portraying the behaviour of little scientists.

Learning within the S.P.A.C.E arena also needs to link classrooms to the outside world. Field trips, partnerships with industrial organisations and connections with experts in the various academic and professional domains will become essential features to make learning interesting and relevant, and linked to the real world around. "The modern world no longer rewards people for what they know... but for what they can do with what they know"².

This term, too, MIGS gave a new meaning to International Day when we imbibed ourselves with the philosophy of *Ubuntu* – a spirit of interdependence and interconnectedness – concepts that embody international education. We celebrated International Day through Africa, and as the Zulus say, *Umuntu Ngumuntu Ngabantu*, "a person is a person through other persons". A huge thank you to staff, parents, students and representatives from embassies of African nations for the immense collaboration.

The standard of Drama Performances by Year Groups 3, 4 and 5 students continue to be a reminder of the depth of cultural talent MIGS is fortunate to have, and reinforces our belief that the efforts of our staff in delivering a holistic curriculum have borne worthwhile fruit for the benefit of our students.

At the MIGS Cross Country Run at Tasik Perdana Gardens, we all learnt that it is not how fast we ran, but how long we could run... fast! Wearing house colours, students from Reception to Year 11 ran to gain points for their houses. And once again we were humbled by the support from our parents who helped out! Everyone huffed and puffed, tried their best and some won medals and others went home feeling good, in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

Today with the Parent-Teacher Meeting, we close Term 1 and as each one of us heads off to places near and far, may I take the opportunity to wish everyone a great time of happiness and joy in their families during the holidays. And to all our Christian staff, parents, students and patrons, a very blessed Christmas too!

Happy reading this issue of the MIGS Newsletter.

Notes

¹ Low Khah Gek, Director-General of Education (Schools) at MOE, Singapore

² Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills at OECD

in "Singapore students top in Maths, Science and Reading in Pisa international benchmarking test."

<http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education/singapore-students-top-in-maths-science-and-reading-in-international>



Mr Guy Cassarchis, Head of Senior School

Term 1 of the 2016/2017 Academic Year has come to a close. As usual it has been an extremely busy 15 weeks of schooling with the students involved in a wide array of learning, both in and outside of the classroom. Some of the learning that has taken place outside the classroom involved, among others, Roald Dahl Day, MIGS Cross Country, Children's Day, International Day, House Debating and ISAKL Cross Country Championships.

Today we had our Year 7-9 Parent-Teacher Meeting. I hope that you have utilised this opportunity to discuss your child's academic endeavours and progress with their various teachers. Please remember that a quality education is gained when we have a strong and cooperative partnership between the school, the parents and the students. At MIGS we are continuing to embrace this partnership model so that we can achieve positive student outcomes in a safe, happy and engaging school.

As a parent it is important that you reflect on your child's effort for this term, and that you acknowledge any successes and discuss areas of concern and improvement that can occur from the beginning of Term 2. Remember, learning starts in the home and then as teachers we are there to educate your children to become successful and cooperative community members.



Is BYOD Really Helpful?

MIGS is committed to providing a supportive learning environment for all students and is keen to assist students with access to personal laptops/tablet devices. The School's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy has been established to allow students in Years 7-11 to bring a laptop or tablet device to school and connect to the School's wireless network to access the Internet and email.

Like almost everything, BYOD has its own merits and demerits. The advantages of BYOD are that it makes the process of imparting education smoother as students make use of their own technological devices. Furthermore, it ensures that students are more organised. And, if you want, you can also experience a unique classroom where students and teachers swap their roles. But there other benefits of BYOD; here is a quick look at some of them.

- **Offers comfort of using a known device**
The most important advantage that BYOD offers is surely the comfort of using one's own device. It may be easy for schools to install their own devices, but that would not help the cause; when students bring their own devices to school, they bring something familiar with them. This means that they can use it without hassle and are able to focus more easily on the lesson, as they do not have to think about handling completely unknown devices.
- **Leverages students' love for their devices**
These days you can find many tech-inclined students who love their devices more than anything else; that is why students remain glued to these devices round the clock. Using these devices to impart lessons is a great way to leverage students' love for their devices. This is expected to be more effective than the traditional chalk-and-blackboard method of teaching.
- **Advanced technology makes learning easier**
Advancements in the field of technology have helped to introduce lots of devices. Many of them have features which were hard to imagine even only a few years back. All these are not only making the process of imbibing lessons easier for students, but also helping to retain them longer. And all these can be best utilised if students are able to use their devices properly, so using their own devices surely helps them learn more effectively.

Using technology in classrooms has become widespread these days. Despite a few disadvantages, the benefits that BYOD offers are driving its increasing popularity across the globe and it is expected to be a regular integration soon in many more educational institutions around the world. In fact, BYOD is being dubbed as the upcoming revolution that the world of education is expected to experience quite soon.

I hope that you have found some of this information on BYOD of some interest. In the next newsletter I will highlight some of the challenges that schools and teachers face with BYOD in the classroom, and generally around the school campus.

BYOD at MIGS is purely optional as we have a designated Senior School ICT lab and a class set of Chrome books that staff can book for their classes to use. Our MIGS BYOD programme supplements the current digital usage in the classroom and around the school.

As a general reminder, mobile phones are **NOT** permitted to be used around the school campus. The only exception to the rule is if a teacher allows the mobile phone to be used in the classroom for educational purposes, other than that staff have been requested to confiscate any mobile phones after a first warning.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our student and their families that are leaving MIGS at the end of Term 1, a successful transition to their new schools, homes and countries. Please come and visit us when you are in the area as MIGS will always remain a strong family orientated school, which will welcome you back.

Thank you to all of our students, families and staff for a successful term and I hope that you have an enjoyable and safe holiday break. It is a time to relax, wind down and spend some time with family and friends.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school for the first day of **Term 2 – Wednesday 4 January, 2017.**



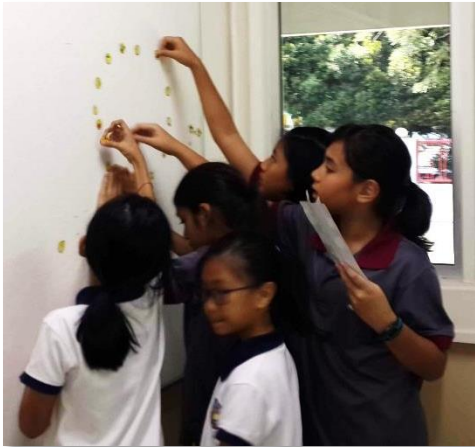
Wellness Lesson

Recently we discussed about kindness and gratitude with our School Counsellor, Ms Rajani. The Year 5S students gathered to listen and ponder about how these inspiring words can bring joy and build a better relationship with others.

Next, we were taught to do some deep breathing exercises where we took deep breaths and exhaled slowly to relax. Ms Rajani also taught us visualisation techniques. This was not only to de-stress but to quieten our minds. We had to close our eyes and imagine that we were on a pristine beach with the sound of the soothing waves and the feel of the golden sand under our feet. Every time the wave washed ashore, we were to imagine the tiny grains of sand slipping under our feet. I felt very calm and relaxed.

For our next activity we were each given a coloured paper plane. On the planes we were encouraged to write about a kind act which we have done. At the end of the session students were encouraged to 'shoot' their planes into a coloured box to have some fun.

The next activity was finding a partner and making eye contact without talking. My partner was Nik. This exercise helped us to be comfortable in silence.



Finally, Ms Rajani asked us to get into groups. My group members were Nik, Qian Tung, Nadirah, Tameera and Lauren. Ms Rajani gave us stickers, and with these stickers we made a large outer circle and a smaller inner circle.

The outer circle had stickers with happy and grateful faces. The inner circle had stickers with angry and ungrateful faces. It was to show that being good is greater than being bad.

After the session with Ms Rajani, I felt positive, happy and thankful for being given an opportunity to move ahead in a positive direction. I hope we can do this more often.

Gurdetta Kaur
Year 5S

On 2nd November 2016, Ms Rajani had a session on wellness with the Year 5S students. She explained about gratitude and asked us to think about the good we have done in the past three days. Ms Rajani told us to write it down on a paper plane that she gave us.

Next, Ms Rajani told us to stand up, close our eyes and take a deep breath. We had to stay still while doing it and it was so relaxing. Ms Rajani said that this practice is good for our health. She advised us to do it at least three times a day.

We had a deep breathing session next, and after that Ms Rajani asked us to pick a partner and stare into our partner's eyes. Whoever laughed meant that they were not comfortable or relaxed, but we can smile. It was the funniest activity for me.

Lastly, we were separated into groups. My team members were Sun Woo, Kiera, Haikal and Ryan Adam. We were given motivational face stickers and asked to make a shape based on kindness. My group did a comic about kindness using the stickers.

I felt very relaxed after the session. It was the most fun session ever.

Anggia Tsani Rachmadiyahanti
Year 5S



International Day Celebrations: Africa

The 25th of November was a special day for my school and for me because we celebrated International Day and the theme was Africa, which is my continent.

Early in the morning, my mum woke me and my brothers up. We had our breakfast and then my mum helped us to wear our traditional Algerian clothes.

A fantastic agenda was prepared for that day in which my brothers and I participated.

On that day, everyone was dressed in traditional African costumes including the teachers and staff. Even Ms Nancy and Mr Guy wore African outfits and it was awesome.

The celebrations began with performances from different regions of the world. Then we focussed on Africa. My brothers and I took part in the fashion parade and we had a dance representing my country, Algeria.

Next we had a taste of African food which was yummy. After that we had face painting, hair braiding and took photos at a photo booth which looked like a hut.

Finally, it was time for the exhibition in the classrooms, where different stuffs from Africa were presented.

It was a wonderful and exiting day for everyone. Thank you, MIGS, for giving us the opportunity to show to our classmates, teachers and staff the culture and cuisine of Africa.

Yasmine Benayad
Year 4R

Practice Sessions

It was tough when we starting practicing for our International Day performance. At weekends we went to each other's houses. We danced for hours. We practiced just to get the moves right. I was nervous on the day but I was glad that in the end everything went well.

Performances

I liked the performance especially the dancers. The show was beautiful. The dancers were perfect. People who sang had good voices. The group which acted did it perfectly. When it came to my turn I was nervous and I missed a step or two. But I felt that everyone did an excellent job.

Exhibitions

Our parents went around the school to see the African exhibits prepared. I was one of the tour guides. They went to the Year 5 classrooms to see the sculpture, jewelry and other displays. After that they went to Year 6 to see the fauna of Africa. Then they went to the Year 4 classrooms to see how the students painted the Masai mask. After the tour they had a photo session with the students with a huge cake given by the African parents.

Esomudo Osuji-Bells Year 2S



Discovering Potential | Learning to Care | Respecting Differences

When we found out that we were going to showcase to the whole school our traditional African dances, we were all excited yet nervous. How will people react? Will they like it?

Our parents were very much involved and got us all prepared. They were excited with the opportunity to present Africa to the school community. We had several days of practice to get our routines right. We prepared a dance which represented Kenya.

Finally the day came. We had a great time watching and participating in the performances in the morning. The best part was when so many parents and students went up on stage to dance. I could see the joy on all faces.

I think I speak for everyone when I say that it was our most memorable International Day celebrations.

Neema Njeri Ngaari
Year 7T



International Day at MIGS is held annually to celebrate the school's diversity and acceptance of everyone despite any differences. The theme this year was Africa.

To kick off the festivities, there was a dance, piano and singing performance from the Junior School students. They were extremely upbeat and entertaining. The Senior School performances came afterwards, which consisted of a poem recital, a k-pop dance and a song performance.

The highlight of the whole event was the fashion show. We were all mesmerised by the beauty of the many African costumes. We got to see them paraded on stage while we learnt their origin and story. It was a most educational experience.

Then we had an exciting African dance performance by professional dancers which had us all cheering. Next came something we were all looking forward to: tasting of African food. The food did not disappoint. They were really delicious!



After that we had the opportunity to learn about African culture, history and the different countries in the continent. In the Senior School, we went to our respective classrooms and worked on an interactive teamwork-based series of online questions. Each question was a puzzle, that when solved revealed a fact about the country.

All in all, the day really showed the acceptance we all have towards each other and taught us to cherish the differences among us.

Tasha Suresh
Year 11T

Reflection from a parent

I received an email from the school some weeks earlier for the International Day event, since my wife was not going to be in KL on the faithful day. So I decided that I was going to attend it with mixed feelings though as I considered it strange since this was the first time in my four years of knowing the school they are inviting me for such an occasion.

I later received a call from my wife and one of the Nigerian parents asking me to come for one of the programme planning meetings. This I obliged and at the meeting I realised that the day will be focused on Africa. I found it very impressive seeing the amount of time and energy the MIGS staff, students and parents were putting in preparing for the day. I also got involved and took my children down on A few occasions for rehearsals and practices.

On the very day of the celebrations I left home with my children all dressed in our traditional clothes for school at about 7.15 am. The event organising committee was very impressive and the synergy between the MIGS staff, students and parents was outstanding. Despite some hitches the event turned out well.

I personally found the event very educative, being born and raised in the African continent; the activities and speeches opened my eyes to so much I never knew of eg. different cultures in Africa, wildlife, tourist attractions, the people of Africa, the variety of African food etc.

The day was worth it and every second I spent at MIGS that day was also worth it. Though I have never witnessed an International Day event in MIGS, I am sure the focus on a particular continent is a laudable idea. Please keep up the good work.

A big thank-you to all parents, teachers and staff of MIGS who made this event a spectacular and memorable one indeed.

Mr Godwin Osuji-Bells



Year 3 Assembly: Lost Boys

On Thursday 1st of December we had our Year 3 Assembly entitled "Lost Boys". It is based on excerpts from the movie *Peter Pan*. For me it was especially exciting because I was the narrator and for many years I have wanted to be the narrator for my school play.

I came to school dressed for the occasion in a blue dress and a pair of blue shoes with a matchina hair band.

Sulaiman, the master of ceremony, started the assembly with an introduction of all cast members. After that the Darling's children came up on stage and it was my turn to say my lines.

Everybody did a brilliant job with their dancing, acting and singing. All the parents in the hall cheered for us. We ended our assembly with the song, *Fly to Your Heart*.

At the end of the assembly Ms Nancy gave her speech and praised us and our teachers for our hard work. Ms Esther was really proud of us!

Zara Amjad, Year 3S



The students of Year 3 performed a play called "Lost Boys". The play is about four siblings from the Darling family – Wendy, Mindy, Michael and John – and their dream about Neverland.

The children meet Peter Pan, Sleepy Pan, Tinker Bell and Pixie who take them all on an adventure to Neverland. While they were flying over Neverland, Peter Pan pointed out Captain Hook's ship. Captain Hook wanted to make Peter Pan his prisoner.

Tinker Bell and Pixie flew towards the Lost Boys' house. The Lost Boys shot an arrow at Wendy's locket which brought her down to them. Wendy then took care of the Lost Boys until one day when they were playing, Captain Hook captured Wendy.

Peter Pan went to meet Captain Hook to save Wendy. Captain Hook ordered his pirates to take Wendy back to land and let her go. Then he grabbed Peter Pan.

Everyone knew that Captain Hook does not like the sound of a ticking clock. So they played that sound and made it louder and louder until Captain Hook could not take the noise anymore. He let Peter Pan go.

Peter Pan thanked his friends for saving his life and counted this as one of his most exciting adventure. Soon after this the Darling children woke up and realised that it was all just a dream.

That concluded the wonderful story of the Lost Boys and brought our play to an end.

Maryam Mudasir, Year 3S

S.P.A.C.E – A Project-Based Learning Experience

Year 1

Our little ones began with simple discussions on their understanding of pets. During the first week they shared their thoughts on how they handle their pets. Teachers then introduced them to the world of different pets with a presentation.

The following week's activity started with a role-play by the children wearing a mask of their favourite pet. The students were divided into groups to match various pets to their homes and food. They had lots of fun while learning how to care for pets.



The next weeks saw the classroom floor marked with the paw tracks of various pets with each set of tracks leading to the habitat of that pet. They then had a reading of "Maisie's Dragon" by Philippa Danvers – a story of a young girl and her search for her lost dragon.

The final weeks at Year 1 saw them thinking about how to care for and be responsible pet owners. They recognised that different animals have different needs. They learned about the freedom for all animals as advised by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals under which a pet would be assured food, water, shelter and comfort, opportunity to play with other animals and treatment in case of any injury.

Year 2

Students embraced the same theme, but on a different level. They started it with a storytelling session. They then chose a different pet for each group and discussed their reasons for having made their choice. They also drew their favourite pets and coloured them. The sessions then slowly moved on to explore 'lines of symmetry' on their chosen pets.

The week after our students completed their designs of bookmarks in the Junior ICT suite. They printed their 'masterpieces' and had them neatly cut in various shapes.

The following week the Year 2s embarked on a poster-making project on how to take care of pets. Children shared their opinions, ideas and their own experiences on how they take care of their pets at home. They watched a short video clip on how to care for their pets. They then designed colourful posters on ways to take care of their pets. They were assessed based on the information/facts on the poster, their presentation skills and their creativity in design.

The next session had children writing Acrostic Poems about their pets. They finally moved to an art project – making a collage of their favourite pets using colourful sequins.



Year 3

Students were found exploring ways to 'celebrate living in harmony in school'. They practiced a short skit based on a story, before they performed in groups. They later brainstormed the do's and don'ts among friends. They shared opinions and got each other to open up to discuss their thoughts, their likes and their dislikes.

The following week saw the students learning about the environment and understanding the effects we have on Mother Earth. They thought about ways to promote a lifestyle that benefits Mother Earth and all living things.

Next, they brainstormed in groups to list down things they can do help to save the earth. Each student was given a handprint to cut out. They then had to write down, on each finger, their ideas on helping Mother Earth.

The activity proved that students are learning to love, respect and care for their environment. Students also shared and learned new ways on how to protect the environment.

Year 4

Students were challenged on their thinking skills at this level. They worked on the theme entitled, 'Improving the performance of an aeroplane', through crossword puzzles, creating their own task sheets and attempting essays. They then moved on to design their own advertisements and creating a cartoon strip.

The following week saw some enthusiastic aircraft designers at work. They built their own airplanes using different materials. The students were found to thoroughly enjoy this activity and to apply the expected learning outcomes.

The next sessions witnessed the students reflecting on what they did during the previous sessions. It was interesting to note that they checked previous records from their respective reflection journals and started discussing ideas with their partners before getting down to completing their tasks. They then proceeded with making the second paper planes. This time around, the students were given standard A4 papers to make their planes.

Their project sessions ended with all the groups making a total of three attempts per group to fly their planes.



Year 5 & Year 6

The exercise gets a lot more exciting with our **Upper Key Stage 2** learners. They were on to become aspiring investigators, fact finders, problem solvers, creative presenters and budding environmentalists. Students decided to adopt and expand on their learning on one of the most pressing concerns of modern day , 'Water', linking the theme to their Geography Studies.

The first two to three weeks in **Years 5 and 6** saw the students commencing work in three groups. Each group was assigned a different task and group members decided to gather once every two weeks. This helped them with their general discussions and presentations.

The next few weeks the **Year 5s** were seen interviewing the various Heads of Departments to study the usage of water in the school and to investigate water supply points with the help of floor maps. A few budding poets even drafted poems to satisfy their creative thirst.

Meanwhile, the **Year 6s** were on their way to become environmentalists for a local cause. They ventured on a webquest in the Junior ICT lab, investigating the major rivers in Malaysia and getting in-depth information by collaborating online.

The subsequent weeks saw the **Year 5** students compiling all of their findings after two weeks of discovery. They investigated and recorded water supply points via help of the given floor map. They also attempted to determine leakage points, if any.

During this time the **Year 6** students went on with their research on the major rivers in Malaysia. They worked in pairs to document a fact file on their chosen river. This included writing short paragraphs on the habitat and government conservation projects of the river. It was not an easy task for the students.

Students then planned for their Presentation Day. They had brilliant ideas. They edited and completed PowerPoint presentations, 3D models and posters. Teachers facilitated the sessions with their suggestions on possible improvements. The Presentation Day that followed witnessed one of the most exciting session of the S.P.A.C.E. programme.



The Exhibition

The term's sessions were concluded with an exhibition by the Year 5 and 6 students for the younger ones. While the Year 5s explored and demonstrated different ways to filter water, the Year 6s researched on major rivers in their country of origin. Prominent rivers in Iran, Malaysia, United Kingdom, Korea, India, Africa, Indonesia and Pakistan were looked into. Geographical characteristics and several sustainability issues were highlighted. It became a splendid opportunity to showcase the strengths of students at MIGS.

Spelling Bee Competition

We assembled in the school hall for the Spelling Bee Competition. It started with the Year 6s. Mr Gary called all the participants to go up on the stage. The competition began as Ms Stella read out the words and each student had to spell out the given words.

Every participant had to say the word first then spell the given word, and say the word again. The judges will decide if the words were spelt out correctly. The judges were Ms Asma and Ms Emma.

The competition went on for Years 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1. When it was my turn, I went to the microphone to spell my word. At the end of the competition, Zara came first and I came second. Johayra came in third. I felt very happy because I came second in the Year 2 competition.

Koh Lee Anne
Year 2R

I was one of the contestants in the spelling bee competition. There were five other contestants. We all had the chance to spell a word. At every round a person will be eliminated when they spell the word wrongly.

My friend Hafizah and I were the last two contestants in the final round. We both spelled many words. At last I spelled the final word correctly. Mr Gary declared me as the winner for Year 3.

I was so happy that I won. I was also excited to share this experience with my all my friends, teachers and parents.

Zara Syahrul Nazrin
Year 3R

The first Spelling Bee Competition in MIGS was held on 7th December 2016 in the school hall. Students from Years 1-6 participated. Three students represented each class.

For Year 2, six of us joined the competition. It was a challenging competition for most of us. Some of the participants got eliminated early.

In the finals, only three students were left and I was glad to be in the top three. After the first placing was decided, it was a tough battle between me and Lee Anne of Year 2R.

After about 29 minutes, the second place was won by Lee Anne. I got third place. It was an experience I would never forget.

Princess Johayra II Saidemen
Year 2S

Three students from Year 5S – Lauren, Gurdettaa and me – were chosen for the Spelling Bee Competition on Monday.

The whole Junior School came to watch us. I was shivering because I was really nervous to go up on stage. All of us went through five rounds. I spelled all the words correctly except for one.

In the end Terra won first place I got third place. I received a certificate for my effort. I showed it to my parents and they were very proud of me.

Anggia Tsani Rachmadiyah
Year 5S



ISAKL Cross Country Championship

On 3rd December 2016, the ISAKL Cross Country Championship took place. Ms Courtney and Mr Charlie had announced who were selected to represent our school. It was to be held at Epsom College.

On the day of the championship, we arrived at school by 6.30 am and were whisked away by the bus. Many of the students were very excited yet nervous as they kept talking about the run. Most of us grew restless as the journey took 1 hour.

After we arrived, we were given our numbers which were to be pinned to our shirts during the run. Shortly after, students who were going to run in the Under-9 girls' event were taking their place at the starting line. Unfortunately, none of them came in first, second or third but everyone knew they had tried their best.

The same thing happened to the Under-9 boys' and Under-11 boys' and girls' event. Afterwards, the senior students arrived, but we had to leave.

It was an amazing experience and I really had a blast. Thank you, MIGS, for this opportunity.

Aysha Rais Year 4S

Senior school students who were selected for the Cross Country Championship departed from school at around 8.00 am. Our hearts were beating rapidly as we got off the bus. Most of us were really nervous.

We went to their court where we had to warm-up. The juniors had already finished their races. All the Under-13s were called to the starting line of the race.

First went the girls for their 3km race. We knew how hard it was going to be but we did not lose hope. When the boys from other international schools started assembling at the starting line, we were surprised to see the size of them; they were so tall!

Then the Under-15s came to the starting line. The girls set off with speed as they wanted to be in the top 10. Next went the boys.

At last it was our turn, the Over-15s boys' race. We knew exactly what we had to do to succeed. Both girls and boys ran together but they had a huge amount of distance to cover, 5km in total!

The day came to an end where we had to pack our things and go back to school. We had some really good results, with seven students finishing in the top 10. We also had a medal winner.

Ikhwan Mohd Zaini, 11T	2 nd place – 5km race	Qaasim Baker, 10E	5 th place – 3km race
Nayab Amjad Hussain, 10E	5 th place – 5km race	Reese Sardelich, 8T	8 th place – 3km race
Tamilla Rashidova, 11E	6 th place – 5km race	Izmi Effendi, 10T	9 th place – 3km race
Myra Lim, 9T	4 th place – 3km race		

The one thing we all learnt was that this competition was not only for the purpose of winning, to also have some fun while running with your friends.

Shrijit Mandal & Tunku Izudin Tunku Shaharuddin Year 8E



Netball League

Netball League 2016 was overall a satisfying and an extremely meaningful experience for our new netball team. We had fun together, we cried together, we even went through the early days where we lost every match against other schools due to our inexperience. At that time, all we could do was to comfort each other and make promises to get stronger.

Now, however, our netball team has been on a winning streak against other international schools. We even won a match just last week with an overwhelming score of 14-1. Our grueling days of hard work, practice and determination have finally paid off.

I am grateful to be able to be a part of this team, and I would like to thank Ms Hannah for her continuous motivation and enthusiasm. We will continue to do our best in all of our future matches.

Pearl Ng Yijing (Goalkeeper)
Year 11E



Term 1 KL Sports League O15 Netball Results

MIGS vs FISKL	: 3 – 9
MIGS vs Taylors	: 3 – 11
MIGS vs FISSJ	: 8 – 3
MIGS vs BNIS	: 6 – 5
MIGS vs APIS	: 14 – 1

Football League

U15 Boys' Football Team

Our boys from the U15 football team have been performing well over Term 1. We have been in a great form with three wins and only two losses. The players have been able to develop their teamwork skills as football is a team sport. We have learnt the value of communication within a football game as well as the importance of training. Training is essential to us as it improves our skills. With training, we have achieved this great form of ours.

Our U15 football team consists of: Mik Mrd, Clayton Kandorozu, Miqhail Iskandar, Gian Luca Pozzuto, Hussein Al-fath, Qasim Baker, Anaqi Zaharudin, Matthew Kim, Haiqal Ruslan and the captain, Dimas Falah.

We hope to play much better football in Term 2 and achieve our goal to win this challenging league.

Dimas Anggara Falah
Year 10T

O15 Boys' Football Team

Last year, MIGS joined the Kuala Lumpur Sports League, competing against four other schools. This year is our second year in the league.

The new season began at the start of the term. All players were very competitive and worked hard to come out tops in this league. They were prepared for every match and never missed training. So far, the boys in the O15 team have lost only one game.

We have a final game against Fairview International Kuala Lumpur. This game will decide the winner of the league. Last year, our U15 boys managed to win the league. We very much hope that this year we can win this league too.

Mohd Ikhwan Zain
Year 11T

Inter-house Volleyball Tournament

Recently the P.E. Department and the Sport Captains introduced an inter-house volleyball tournament. Matches took place during each Senior School break time on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Games were played throughout Term 1 and they have now come to an end. The final results can be found in the table below.

We would like to thank everyone who played a role in this tournament – the prefects for officiating the matches and eager players for competing. We know everyone did their best to try and win points for their house.

Mohd Ikhwan Zaini (Year 11T) and Sarah Heath (Year 11E)
Sports Captains



U14 Matches

Rank	Team	W	L	D	Pts	SP	LP	GB
1	Emerald	3	0	0	9	54	30	24
2	Topaz	2	1	0	6	47	43	4
3	Ruby	1	2	0	3	38	50	-12
4	Sapphire	0	3	0	0	38	54	-16

U16 Matches

Rank	Team	W	L	D	Pts	SP	LP	GB
1	Ruby	2	0	1	7	57	36	21
2	Sapphire	2	0	1	7	50	41	9
3	Topaz	1	2	0	3	48	59	-11
4	Emerald	0	3	0	0	33	52	-19



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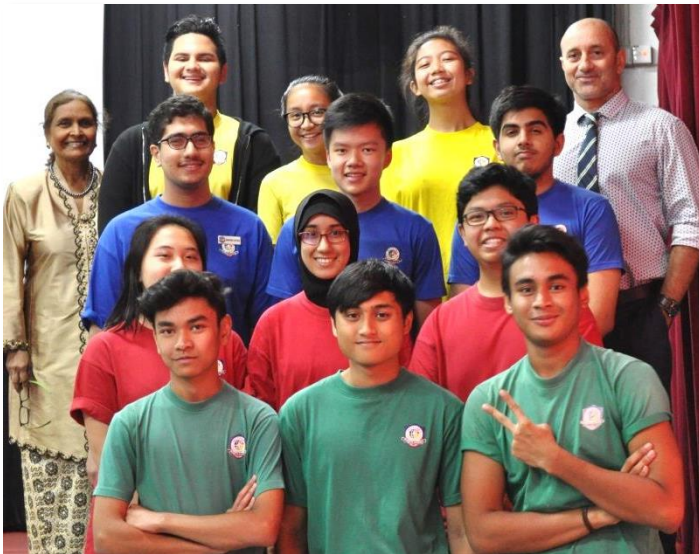
Inter-house Debate

On 2nd December 2016, excited and eager students crowded the hall to witness our annual Inter-house Debate. Nerve-wrecked debaters were seen going over their speeches and trying to calm themselves.

The first debate was between Ruby and Sapphire house. Their topic was, "This House believes that the United Nations has failed". Both Ruby and Sapphire had intense, passionate and fascinating arguments and tackled their opponents well.

Next up was Topaz and Emerald house with their topic, "This House believes that social networking mediums are beneficial to society." The stage was a warzone of zealous arguments and fierce rebuttals.

After the energetic debates we had Ngozi Osuji-Bells entertain us with her powerful vocals while the results were calculated. A feeling of tension filled the hall as Datin Christie revealed the winners of Round 1. Sapphire and Topaz came out victorious and were set to battle it out in the finals. Ruby and Emerald had to compete for third place.



The anticipated Round 2 began. Ruby and Emerald went against each other for third and fourth placing with the topic, "Traditional learning is better than 21st century learning." All the debaters held their ground and tried to steal third place. The audience could feel the intensity of the debaters, especially during the reply speech when they attacked their opponents' points.

It was then time for Sapphire and Topaz house to face each other for the worthy title of champions. The final topic was on the most controversial political event that happened in 2016, "Was Brexit beneficial for Britain?"

Tactics, strategy and plans had to be made by both teams. Each had well-researched and well-crafted strategies. Opponents attacked each other with powerful and intimidating statements.

We were on the edge of our seats as the final score was calculated. We had a lovely performance by Sarah Khan before the results were announced.

The winners of the Inter-house Debate 2016 went to Topaz house! Sapphire came in second while Ruby came in third. Ruby received an extra 10 points when Maryam Chaudhary was awarded Best Speaker of the Inter-house Debate. Sadly, Emerald came in last.

This year's Inter-house Debate was one of the most gripping and enthralling events of Term 1.

Report by Year 10 students

Study Skills Handbook

Schoolwork during the holidays?

The holidays are designed to be a period of rest and recuperation for students. This means that students need a chance to unwind and relax and do things they enjoy!

However it does not necessarily mean that no schoolwork is done during this time. Go through this checklist to see if you need to do any work during the holiday break.

- 1 ASSESSMENTS:** If there are assessments due in the first few weeks of the next term, students will need to work on these assessments, and possibly complete them before the due date.
- 2 EXAMS:** If exams will be held in the next term then students should use some time in the holidays to get their study notes up to date. If the exams are early in the term, then students will need to also study during the holidays.
- 3 SENIOR EXAMS:** For Senior Students who have major exams after the holidays, the holidays will be a period of intense study and not a time of relaxation.
- 4 AREAS OF WEAKNESS:** The holidays can also be a time for pinpointing areas of weakness. For example, students may spend some time reviewing Mathematics topics they found difficult or reviewing the grammar in a language they are learning.

Apart from these, we do want students to have a chance to refresh their mind and body, catch up on their sleep and take the time to focus on a healthy lifestyle and quality time with family and friends.

Learn more about how to be a more effective student through the ELES Online Study Skills Handbook.

The ELES Online Study Skills Handbook is a comprehensive and interactive online guide for the Senior School community (students, parents and teachers).

Mr Guy Cassarchis
Head of Senior School



Staying Safe while Travelling

First term break is just around the corner. Pulling off a great family vacation requires a lot of planning. Spending time with family and exposing kids to the world is absolutely astonishing but at the same time we need to keep them safe while having fun.

Here are some travel safety tips for having a great time while traveling with children:

- 1 Check the safety and security of the country you are visiting
- 2 Vaccinate your children if necessary or if it is scheduled
- 3 Try to get world travel health insurance
- 4 Ensure your children know who to call or where to go should something happen to you
- 5 Know the nearest hospital and emergency medical number
- 6 Carry medical supplies (first aid pouch) and mosquito repellent
- 7 Know the fire escapes of your accommodation or places of visit
- 8 Discipline your children on swimming pool safety
- 9 Encourage your children to wash hands often and bring a portable sanitising gel with you to help prevent illness while traveling



Reka Ramakrishnan
School Nurse

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