



ISSUE ONE 2020

Christ Church
Secondary School

CHR HIGHLIGHTS

Principal's Message

Greetings to all! We take this opportunity to welcome our latest batch of Secondary One students to Christ Church Secondary School (CHR).



How time flies – Chinese New Year has come and gone ... and so has Chingay. Due to the challenges associated with COVID-19, a number of school events and programmes had to be postponed or cancelled. While our Sec One students had to give Chingay Parade 2020 a miss, they nonetheless were able to showcase their teamwork, talent and results of their hard work at Chingay 2020 (NE Show) on 18 Jan 2020. We are immensely proud of them – from the first day of school, to the orientation programme and Chingay programme, they have displayed courage, resilience and a heart to serve. Kudos to our CHRians!

It's only the second month of the year, and it certainly feels a lot longer than that! Looking back, we give thanks to the Lord for His abundant blessings upon CHR. Our CHR community is delighted with the opening of the Thomson-East Coast Line 1 on 31 Jan 2020. Amidst the gloom, there is a silver lining to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Hand hygiene is up, and the school community is working towards making wiping-down a daily routine as part of developing social responsibility. Like the practice of "o-soji" in Japanese culture, we hope that "wipe-down" will become a new social norm in Singapore.

My heartfelt gratitude to everyone for playing your part in keeping CHR and Singapore safe.

We continue to give thanks to God for each and every one who gives to CHR and makes CHR what it is today and will be.

Mr David Lau
Principal

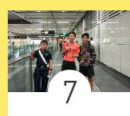
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To access **CHR Highlights Issue 1 (2020)** in **full colour**, please scan the QR code or visit the 'Publications' section in www.chr.edu.sg



Nov '19 Jan '20

Feb '20



*Snippets
of Life
IN CHR*



CHRians HAVE THE DRIVE TO EXCEL, ARE THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTORS AND ARE ACTIVE LEARNERS
COURAGE . COMPASSION . CURIOSITY

SCHOOL EVENT:

The Chingay Challenge



When first introduced to the Chingay Challenge, the Secondary 1 students were full of anticipation, yet unsure of what to expect when they indicated their role of choice on the slip of paper.

"I love to dance in front of a crowd! Maybe I can join the team of performers so that I can bring cheers to my schoolmates!"

"I like to write & share my stories; so a journalist I shall be!"

These were some responses overheard in the hall as the students explored their options in excitement. The Chingay Challenge was mooted with the belief that all CHRians can leverage their strengths & contribute meaningfully to build a positive learning experience for themselves.

In the Chingay Challenge, the students shared their experiences by assuming specific roles. They could choose to join the team of appreciators, deejays, media, ambassadors, performers or journalists. For some, it was something they look forward to; for others, it was a role which was out of their comfort zones. Nevertheless, the students gave of their best in each Challenge session, extending themselves beyond their limits.

"I am grateful to my dance instructors. They guided me during the practices patiently and I have never been so happy and excited to dance. I always look forward to the sessions."

TRISTAN KOH (1/6)

"When I heard that we were going to withdraw from the Chingay Parade, I was disappointed because we spent a long time practising for the big show. However, it was a memory that I will never forget."

CIAN ANGELO (1/7)

“

"Many think Chingay is all about late nights, tiring walks, dancing all the way and doing nothing else but just that. But that isn't Chingay. I thought Chingay would be boring, but it turned out to be great. While we had to withdraw from the Chingay Parade, one consolation is we can definitely watch it on television and hopefully dance along! If I had the chance, I will definitely participate in Chingay again. It was truly a blast."

ARUSHI AJAY
DESHPANDE

(1/3)

To read stories written by the Sec 1 student journalists, you can access the Chingay Challenge microsite here:



“

"I was really impressed with the OGLs. They exceeded the teachers' expectations when they insisted on having orientation groups that feature students from different classes and streams because they firmly believe that we are one CHR Family."

MR BEK JUN HAO

”

SCHOOL EVENT:

Sec 1 Orientation



In January this year, our Secondary One students took part in the Orientation Camp 2020 organised by the Orientation team teachers and 37 Orientation Group Leaders (OGLs). Through the Orientation Camp, the team hoped to:

- develop a sense of belonging in our Secondary One students &
- give everyone an opportunity to bond & make friends with peers from different streams and classes



Our theme this year, 'Rise of CHR-Lantis', was first conceptualised when the teachers & OGLs met last October. The idea of grouping the students according to different types of marine animals on Day 1 & 'Catch of the Day' on Day 2 was helpful in creating a safe environment for the students to have fun & know their fellow classmates and schoolmates.

"I feel proud to be a CHRian because the CHR students are well-mannered & caring people."

SABRINA SURUTHI MARTIN (1/6)

"The icebreaker games on Day 1 were my favourite because I was encouraged to interact and bond with people whom I did not know. Joshua, our OGL, made me feel welcomed in CHR by sharing his own experiences with us."

LIM HONG RONG EMMANUEL (1/5)



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Beyond The Lens

By ICC

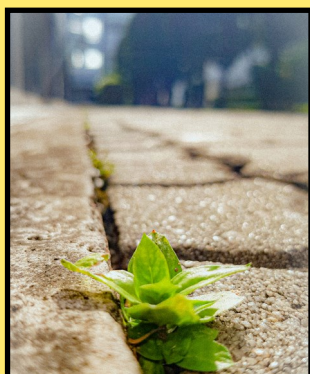
“What is life like through the lens of a CHRian?”

Our InfoComm Club students were challenged to apply elements of composition in photography such as rule of thirds, lines, symmetry and patterns into their work. Here is what they have to share:



Peephole photography: Our classroom block

-LAU QI LE, 2/4



Just like how the leaf thrives in the hard and dry ground, I aspire to be like it: resilient, strong-willed and to persevere through the many odds regardless of the hardships that come along.

-AMOS GOH, 2/4

APPLIED LEARNING PROGRAMME:

Growing Empathetic STEM Healthcare Innovators @ CHR



Making a difference for others:
Interacting with elderly residents to understand the challenges in their daily lives.



Students introducing themselves
confidently to the elderly residents & sharing the purpose of their visit.



Engaging healthcare
professionals to hear their daily work routines & the difficulties that they face at work.

“I gained a better awareness of how the elderly need more encouragement and interactions in their lives. I also respect doctors for always prioritising the needs of their patients over themselves. They often lack time for their own personal care but they take it in their stride.”

RAAM, NEKOLE, SHARBESUWARY, JAVIER, AKIF (2/1)

“We should be thankful for doctors who work long hours just to take care of patients. We also learnt that we should spend time conversing with our family members, especially the elderly so that they do not feel lonely.”

KATHERINE, BEA, JOLYN, TIFFANIE & HUI YI (2/4)

“It was interesting to learn about the challenges faced by pharmacists. Sometimes they have to deal with difficult patients so they need good communicative skills in order to interact with patients effectively.”

SHERYNE, JOEY, KAIMING, ANSLEY, ZI HANG (2/1)

OUTDOOR EDUCATION:

Sec 4 Resilience Camp

“Wah! The trek looks easy!”

I could remember this conversation with my trekking partner, as we started the trek up to the summit. Some smiled and joked, thinking that the climb was going to be an easy attempt. Our smiles dropped when we took a turn and entered the thick jungle foliage. At first, it was just a mere few lunges and leaps to reach the steps, but it soon turned into more of a climb than anything.

I endured the strenuous climb until we finally reached the top. There was not much to see but I was grateful that everyone decided to take a longer break and enjoy the breeze before making our way down. I thought the ascent was hard; the descent was not much better.

My friends and I had to trek down a steep slope that had multiple twists and turns and there was rarely a place where it was just flat earth. Everyone endured the trek down. The thought of food and a bed waiting for us kept everyone motivated. When we finally completed the trek, everyone was relieved that anything would taste delicious in our exhausted state.

HEIDI (4/5)



“I am really proud that my group completed the trek to the summit. I am thankful to my friends, Ellysya and Joey, for being thoughtful towards me. It was fun to have my classmate, Rahaman, keeping our spirits high with his jokes.”

CLARIS SEOW (4/6)

“It was truly a memorable experience to go up the mountain with a fun group even though we were from different classes. We were all constantly looking out for one another & we learned so much about one another. I really appreciate the Johor students for going out of their way to make us feel welcome who were really nice and friendly.”

LEENA NOR RANI ROZARIO (4/4)



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CCE VIA CHALLENGE:

WeCare @ North West - Service Weeks (Admiralty)

As part of an annual charity effort organised by the North West Community Development Council, the Secondary 4 students distributed red festive packs to spread festive cheer to the residents in the Admiralty Division.

The VIA Challenge poses a simple question to all Sec 3s: Are you willing to volunteer some time, take the courage to step forward, and find the compassion to reach out to another person in the community? We were really glad that the answer was a resounding "yes" from many students who gamely took up the challenge. Their reflections speak for themselves - they tell us that they have learnt much about the community's needs and the spirit of serving others, while managing to have fun in the process as they served alongside their friends!

MR NICHOLAS TSAO, HOD/CCE



Spreading festive cheer to the residents — Credits: NorthWest CDC Facebook page

CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (CCE):

Total Defence Week



Mr Shen giving some tips to students.



1/1 students with their thank-you card!

"I was fascinated with the Uniformed Groups HQ static display for Total Defence Day. It was my first time seeing the vehicles and I was intrigued by the quick response vehicle called "Red Rhino". There was also a riot equipment on display by the National Police Cadet Corps which gave us an idea on crime prevention. Other than the static display, I enjoyed the Kahoot quiz we did during morning assembly. For example, I got to know that Singapore began commemorating Total Defence Day in 1984. Overall, Total Defence Week was an amazing experience even though some activities were cancelled as necessary precautions due to the current virus outbreak."

GOH RAY EE YVETTE (3/2)

"The most enjoyable part of Total Defence week was watching the various NE representatives come to the podium to talk about Total Defence. They told us stories from Singapore's past and shared with us the importance of Total Defence and its pillars, especially Social and Psychological Defence. It amazed me to see students address the entire school, without even the slightest bit of nervousness! I must say, the information they conveyed helped me in the Kahoot quiz that was played later in the week."

VINATHI M (3/2)

WALL OF GRATITUDE

A family sticks together through hard times

2020 has brought about many opportunities for CHR staff and students to come together as one team, one family. In the wake of COVID-19, the CHR family has banded together to demonstrate civic consciousness & social responsibility. Have you ever wondered who are the heroes working behind the scenes to make things work in CHR?

The IT Team working tirelessly every morning to ensure that the live streaming from the Parade Square is seamless.



Mr Afiq training the Secondary 1 ICC members to use the PA & Livestream system.

Our cleaning uncles & aunts keep our school environment clean & safe every day.



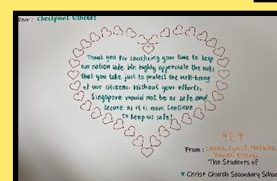
CHR staff doing a visual check on everyone every morning before they enter school.

The Form Teachers keep tab on the students' well-being every morning.



Teachers reminding students to practise social responsibility and hygiene by washing their hands before their meals.

Soap Up. Wipe Down. Throw. Wash. Students washing their hands before they have their meals.



From 4/4: Thank you to the immigration officers for keeping our country safe!



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Fabula Vitae

Editorial Committee: Anandu Jiji (2/4), Ho Hui Yi (2/4), Rowena Joseph (2/4), Tiffanie Kayle Gil Pangan (2/4), Alexandra Denise Manalo (3/1), Tapang Camille Blanche Tandoc (3/2), Ginger Sam Morelos (3/5), Li Jin Yu (3/5), Samicksha D/O Mohan (3/6)

CAUGHT ON Camera



By Anandu Jiji (2/4)

Instagram



Head over to our Les Literato Instagram ([les.literato](https://www.instagram.com/les.literato)) and catch us in action as we capture moments of magic in CHR.

If you are keen on joining our team of enthusiastic and dedicated journalists, approach Ms Rusydiah, tell her the meaning of 'Les Literato' and you might just begin your Les Literato journey.

TRENDING HAIRSTYLES

By Tapang Camille Blanche Tandoc (3/2)
& Tiffanie Kayle Gil Pangan (2/4)

As we walked along Haji Lane and explored Arab Street, we were surprised to discover the place adorned with many hidden jewels like perfume shops and traditional carpets as well as many hair salons and boutiques. It was the perfect opportunity to interview some of the stylish hairstylists to find out about today's trending hairstyles!

When we arrived at 11am, most hair salons were still closed. The ideal time to visit will be from noon onwards as tourists and locals flock to the place for lunch and a quick shop. The hair salon 99 Percent Hairstudio captured our eyes from the start. Ms Tany Cheong, the friendly hairstylist who welcomed us shared many popular hairstyles of men and women today.

For men, the side comb hairstyles are popular due to its easy after-care and suave look. Often, customers come in with a picture of their American celebrities for reference and ask for their hair to be styled the same way.



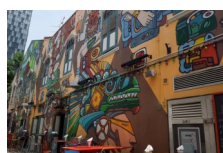
For women, there is greater demand for Korean hairstyles that follows their favourite Korean pop idols. The Korean perm as well as 'air-bangs' are highly requested because of its natural look and feminine hairstyle that flatteringly frames the face. Another popular hairstyle is also the low maintenance shoulder length hair which is especially important to cope with the sweltering heat of Singapore's weather.

For both men and women, a popular trend is colouring hair ash-grey or colouring them with warm tones. Ms Cheong predicts that in 2020, the popular hairstyles will be layered cuts and more Korean perms due to the up and rising Kpop trends.

99 Percent Hairstudio exudes a chill atmosphere with its brightly lit and modern interior. What a surprise for us to find their list of hair services displayed on their wall as cutely designed cafe menu. Their prices may be steep starting at \$59 for a haircut but it must be worth it since people are willing to pay for their services!



So where can you find this hair salon? 99 Percent Hairstudio is situated at Haji Lane between a long stretch of pop art shops and retro clothing stores. What makes the place such a delight to find is the graffiti artworks adorning the exterior of the shop walls.



To get more info, visit their website: <https://www.99percenthairstudio.com.sg>

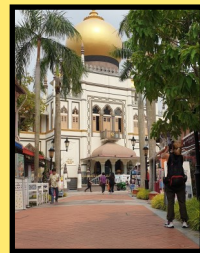
Lining Arab Street were a multitude of shops selling a variety of items and one that caught my eye was a quaint, old-school shop that was selling traditional toys at unbelievably low prices. These traditional toys include five stones, kuti kuti, marbles and many more which many of us have played with in our early childhood.



Walking along the streets, walls were painted in bright and vivid colours. Many of the alleys were painted with graffiti from wall to wall. Many parts of Singapore do not have graffiti which is why this makes Arab Street absolutely Instagram-worthy.



At the end of the street, I chanced upon a grand and majestic building - the iconic Sultan Mosque. Officially opened on 27 December 1929, it is one of the oldest mosques in Singapore. Curious about how it looks inside? Then join them on their organised tours for tourists and visitors!



CHRIAN OF THE TERM: MDM RAHIMAH

By Rowena Joseph (2/4)

You may have known Mdm Rahimah as the strict Malay Language teacher but there is actually a cheerful and bubbly side to her personality. I managed to get up close with her and found out, to my surprise, that she loves the colour pink! Her love for pink is so great that her staff room table, chair and decor are all pink.



How many years have you been teaching in CHR? What were some changes you have seen over the years?

16 years. One change over the years is the school has grown to become more caring since we nurture a culture of care. Another major change is the teachers. I have seen many teachers coming and going for the good reason of upgrading themselves. This change keeps the school very vibrant and energetic.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

New Zealand is the place for me. In fact, it is on my retirement bucket list! I imagine staying in New Zealand for 3 weeks to a month so that I can truly explore the country and its beautiful green scenery.

Which song best describes your life?

Although I don't listen to many songs, two of them have caught my heart. They are 'A Groovy Kind of Love' by Phil Collins and 'Ben' by Michael Jackson. When I was in my early 20s, 'A Groovy Kind of Love' was my favourite song. I find it meaningful as it reminded me of my first love. Meanwhile, the song 'Ben' was simply very touching.

What's one thing you are obsessed with?

Handbags. I have a lot of handbags but I'm not possessive of them. I do give some away to my sisters and nieces. Whenever I buy a handbag, I think to myself that it will be my ultimate handbag. But when another handbag catches my eye, I change my mind and think that is the 'one'. Upon reflection, I need to put a limit to the number of handbags I buy. For now, I've resisted browsing online for bags and stopped my Orchard Road shopping.

What are your passions in life? What keeps you going everyday?

One of my passions is my children. Having them gives meaning to my life. Another important passion of mine is my career. My work is my sanity. If I don't work, I become grumpy. At work, I get to meet many new people, especially in the teaching line because the younger people I'm surrounded with makes me feel young at heart too. Another passion of mine is that when I retire, I want to do something creative or something related to art as I took Art at A-levels.

If you had superpowers, what would you have and why?

The superpower to change self-centered people for the better. I want them to understand other people's feelings instead of just being focused on their own. With more empathetic people, wouldn't that make the world a better place to live in?

Mdm Rahimah has a rich treasure trove of stories and experiences so be sure to smile and chat with her when you see her in school. You'll always learn a thing or two from her.

Arabian Nights

By Samicksha Mohan (3/6)

The glimmering lights of the night,
The freedom that glistened in their eyes,
We were weaving through the markets,
Two kids falling in love so sublime,
Oh but who am I to say?
They didn't know what love meant at that time,
Ah, but they did see beauty and culture of all days.

Carpets of all sizes, dresses of all colours told tales,
Graffiti were named an unruly disgrace,
But to the kids of the night,
The sketches & scribbles held memories so distinct,
Nothing was as everlasting as the tales they speak,
Oh but wasn't it glorious?
To have seen beauty when it came to defeat.

We ran and we ran and we ran,
A whiff of a scent, a familiar perfume,
Brought back delectable memories,
Our tireless running resumed,
We were just kids with dreams,
Leaving the markets we met the pearly moon.

A sudden shiver, a cold stream of wind,
We bid farewell to the stars,
Running on only to find,
The road ends,
So we rest on the desert sands,
among the quiet whispers of the land.



RAVING REVIEWS: DESSERTS

By Ho Hui Yi (2/4)

Get ready for a delicious adventure as we explore Arab Street for the best desserts.

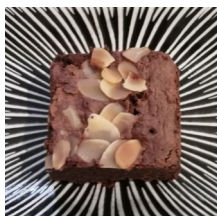
All in

All In is the place to go first for some sweet and creamy treat before you embark on your window-shopping. With cotton candy bubblegum flavoured ice cream as their best-seller, it wasn't surprising that the tub was almost empty! The mix of pink bubblegum and the blue cotton candy makes for a very pretty-looking ice cream. The combination of bubblegum and cotton candy made an entirely new flavour that you have to try it for yourself. Get a cup for \$5.90 and a cone for \$6.90. While it may seem pricey, their generous servings are well worth it.



LIMAA

The pleasant atmosphere and good customer service makes LIMAA a very cozy cafe. LIMAA serves a variety of sweet desserts such as brownies, muffins and cakes. For those cash-strapped, fret not because all desserts are below \$6, making it affordable. We indulged in the dark chocolate brownie which costs \$5.80. Topped with nuts and a crumbly brownie base, it is a good choice if you desire a chocolatey semi-sweet treat.



Beryl's Chocolate Story

Beryl's Chocolate Story at the end of Haji Lane is Beryl's first chocolate experiential museum-inspired outlet. Selling mainly chocolate, we just had to explore the place. We tried their two different bite-sized and handmade chocolates - coffee milk and cereal crunch. The coffee milk chocolate gave a strong hint of latte yet retaining its sweetness. The cereal crunch was made up of dark chocolate mixed with cereal. Like the name itself, the chocolate was really chunky and crunchy. Sold in boxes, these chocolates are truly unique and make for good gifts.



COMIC CORNER

Illustration by Li Jin Yu (3/5)

Caption by Anandu Jiji (2/4)

How People See It

By Alexandra Denise Manalo (3/1) and Ginger Sam Morelos (3/5)

In this issue, we asked CHRians and members of the public one question. Let's find out some of their one-of-a-kind responses:

Question: If you were a food item, what would you be? Why?

Rice. Like me, it's unassuming on the surface, but holds the meal together to the point where it becomes indispensable. (Victoria from Singapore)

I would be an avocado. It has all the good nutrients that the body would need which is why I'm good to have around. (Janet from New Zealand)

Macaron because just like me, it is hard on the outside but soft and sweet on the inside. (Kayla from Philippines)

Soba noodles because there are different ways you can eat them and so, it represents the different sides of me too. (Caitlyn from United Kingdom)

An apple because just like how an apple a day keeps the doctor away, when you get a dose of my positivity, you'll feel better. (Erin, 1E4)

Starbucks white chocolate latte because I have a sweet personality. (Yoshi, 2E2)

Duck rice. The reason is simple. It's my favourite food. (Eason, 4N6)

Maybe a potato because I can be a couch potato sometimes. (Julian, 3E2)

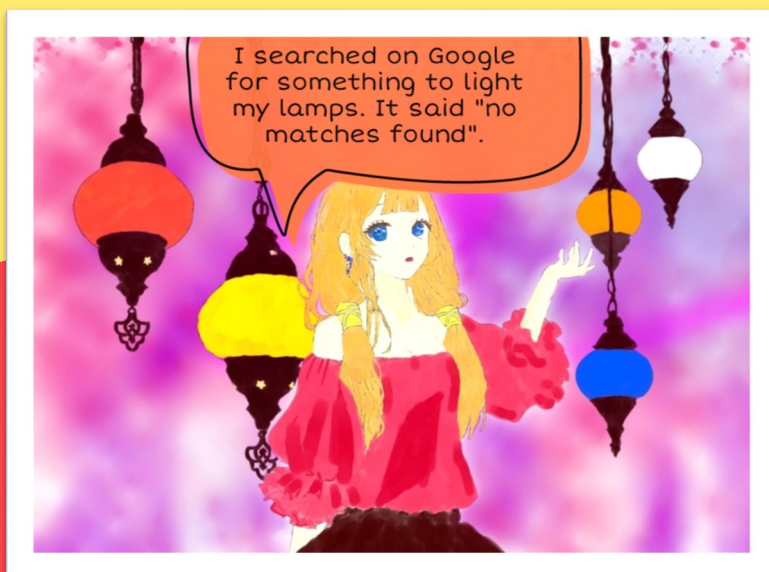
I would be a taco because when I taco-lot to my friends, I make their day spec-taco-lar! (Thomas, 1E4)

I would be an ice cream. I will melt when it is warm just like how I'm touched by people's warmth and kindness. (Ms Charis Lim, CHR Staff)

Cherry tomato. Just like me, it may be small in size but don't let it fool you. You never know if it'll taste sweet or sour until you eat it. (Ms Teoh Shao Cing, CHR Staff)

I would be a DONut! because I'm sweet and aDOable! Like the donut sprinkles on top, I would like to sprinkle happiness into people's lives. (Ms Angel Chng, CHR Staff)

Ben & Jerry's Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough. When you look at it from afar, it looks plain but once you actually dig in, a surprise awaits you. (Ms Jannah, CHR Staff)



GIVING THANKS

Appreciate
Each
Family

Our new staff



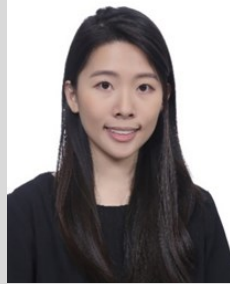
MDM WONG SANDY
HOD
Mathematics

"I am thankful for the warm welcome given to me by both the teachers and students in CHR. My experience so far has been wonderful. I am very excited and looking forward to walking and growing in this journey together with everyone in CHR."



MR CHEN GUANJIE, CLIFF
Subject Head
Science

"I'm really thankful for the opportunity to join CHR. The experience thus far has been really heart-warming with wonderful colleagues and enthusiastic students. In the coming years, I look forward to serving the CHR family while continuing to learn from everyone."



MS CHARIS JOY LIM
Teacher
Music & Geography

"Hi everyone! So far, my time here in CHR has been very positive as the people I've met – colleagues, cleaning staff, canteen vendors, admin staff as well as students, have all been very warm and friendly towards me. I have always believed that academic grades do not take precedence over values. I personally believe that values such as kindness, gratitude and compassion should be the anchor of each individual. I am thankful and glad to know that CHR is a school that places strong emphasis in nurturing values in every student. I hope that in my time here, I will be able to grow and learn together with everyone!"

WHAT'S NEW TO CHR

The new Woodlands South MRT station commenced service on 31 January, 2020. There is a dedicated exit which leads us right to our back gate!



Great convenience - Our back gate is now fully functional with turnstiles installed!

CHR students demonstrating civic-consciousness by keeping to the left of the escalator.



"Crisis brings opportunities." Live Streaming was done as a pilot for morning assembly before it was rolled out to all classes.

Get the latest news and information from our very own digital TV installed in the canteen!



Congrats!



Congratulations to Mr Cliff Chen on his bundle of joy!



Live Talkshow @ Libro Hub: The Education and Career Guidance (ECG) Team invited teachers who did a Mid-Career switch to share their thoughts on the skillsets needed for the future workforce.



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