



Christ Church Secondary School

# CHR Highlights

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Issue 4/2016

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## Sec 1 Resilience Camp



Whenever we were doing any activities, I hope to be a good leader by keeping a lookout for my classmates and ensuring that no one was left behind. I also ensured that my classmates were clear about the instructions given. I demonstrated responsibility by ensuring the cooking equipment we used were cleaned properly and also helped other members to wash their dishes.

Despite feeling devoid of energy, I still put in my best to participate in all the activities enthusiastically. I showed care and concern to my peers by supporting them in all the activities and helping them when they were in need. For example, I helped my peers to carry their kayaks so that we could all share the weight of the kayak and they would not be too tired.

Through this camp, my friendship with my classmates was strengthened and we had beautiful memories of the times spent during the camp.

**Nur Isywannirah Ismail, 1N5**



I took all the activities seriously by paying attention to all the instructions and safety advice that were given. When I went for trekking at Sungei Buloh, I walked in an orderly manner with my classmates so that we would cause minimal disruption to members of the public.

The camp helped me to form closer bonds with my classmates as we encouraged one another whenever we face any problems. For example, when my friends had difficulties with overcoming their fear while attempting the High Elements, I cheered for them to spur them on instead of jeering at them.

The camp took me out of my comfort zone and made me more independent as I had the opportunity learn important life skills through the various activities. I was thankful that the camp had equipped me not only with useful skills but also made me a more confident person.

**Nur Almira Putri Mohamad Azri, 1E2**



## Honours Day (Staff)



Dear Miss Min, you are the best teacher one could ever have. Thank you for being so understanding and nurturing to my class for the past two years.

I really appreciate you for your effort in not only teaching us academically but also values and the importance of good character. Thank you for guiding us and stretching our potential to be better in what do!

**Chernise Tan, 2E4**



All staff commemorated this day with a fun visit to Alive Musuem!



All teaching staff recited the Teachers' Pledge with pride and conviction.



Dear Miss Ng, thank you for being like my 'second' mother and guiding me to be who I am today. To show you my appreciation, I resolve to score distinction for my Mathematics so that you will be proud of me.

**Jong Li Han, 4E2**



Dear Miss Tang, thank you for the enriching and engaging lessons. You are an awesome role model to learn from.

We appreciate you for always making yourself available and taking the effort to understand and care for us.

**Lois Nithiya, 1E3**



Dear Miss Leow, I appreciate the effort you have put in for our class and staying back after school to give us extra lessons.

I promise to do my best for CPA and do you proud. You are the best!

**Gloria Chung, 4T8**



Dear Mr Khairul, you have motivated me to improve my Chemistry and to achieve more than what I had expected.

Thank you for always being there for us and always being so caring.

**Mason Chew, 4N6**



Dear Ms Lee, thank you for being such an understanding and caring teacher who believes in developing our character to be better individuals with the right values. We really appreciate your patience and advice.

**Teo Xin Ni, 2E1**



Dear Mr Chris, it has always been an inspiration to watch you conduct your lessons, working with and providing help to students even after your working hours, on weekends and public holidays.

I have never seen a teacher going the extra mile so passionately to affirm them in their capabilities and using whatsapp as a platform to encourage students to aspire for excellence.

**Ang Boon Jie, 5N2**



Dear Mr Koh,

Thank you for all the hard work as our school discipline master. Thanks for believing in my class and not giving up on us. I really appreciate you for going the extra mile for us to encourage us by showing us care and concern. You really make a difference!

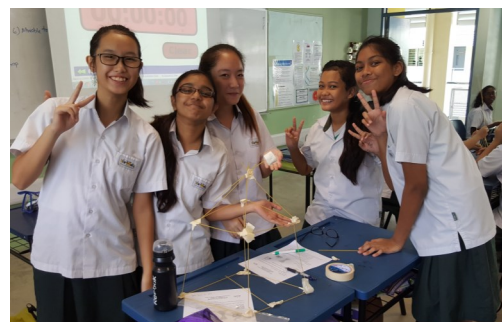
**Wong Wai Ting, 2N6**





## Use of Action-bias Activity to develop Problem-Solving Skills in D & T

The intent of the Action-Bias Activities is to develop 21st Century Competencies in our students. Students have ample opportunities to work in teams, looking at things from different perspectives and to look for various solutions. Productive failure is intentionally designed in the programme for students to continually try and learn from failure. Through the 'Marshmallow Challenge', students interact with others to construct knowledge, new ideas and understanding on structures. They accept different perspectives, solutions and learn from their mistakes.



**Mr Ng Sei Heng, D & T Subject Head**

### **Marshmallow Challenge – Creating the tallest tower to hold a marshmallow using 20 sticks of spaghetti in 10 minutes**

It was challenging to construct a strong structure using just spaghetti sticks to make it stable enough to support a marshmallow. We cracked our brains hard to come up with different ideas to create the best structure. We realised that we could be innovative and tried various ways to support the marshmallow. Through trial and error, we could experiment what structure worked best. At the end of the activity, we realized that a tripod-like structure would be most stable. This activity also demanded a lot of our patience and perseverance as we had to keep trying until we got it right. It also strengthened our team-work skills as we had to work quickly as a group to come to a consensus on how to build the structure.

**Gwen Lim, Clementine Liew, Racheal Chin, 2E4**

## Use of 'Pathway to Reasoning' strategy in Mathematics

In "What's wrong?" students are provided with an opportunity to use their critical thinking skills. The students' task is to discover the error in a given question, correct it and be able to explain how to correct the error. (Krulik and Rudnick, 1999). Research has demonstrated when students are able to identify errors and misconceptions, new learning takes place at a faster pace and students can also retain the knowledge acquired for a longer period of time (Schnepper and McCoy, 2013).

**Mrs Felicia Koo, SH of Mathematics**

Initially, I had difficulties understanding the topic of the law of indices. However, after doing the quizzes and going through the process of 'Pathway to Reasoning', I realized the topic was not as tough as I thought. Through think-pair-share, I have to check my answers with my partner. If we had different answers, we were given time to debate about whose answer was correct. This greatly aided our understanding of the topic. We were given short quizzes so that by understanding our mistakes, we could understand the concepts and apply them correctly.

**Jaishree, 3E3**

I enjoyed the lesson segment on, "What's wrong?" as we were given worksheets on how the law of indices is wrongly applied. We had to spot the mistakes quickly and write the correct answers individually. By working backwards and understanding why some answers are wrong, I gained a better understanding of the topic. This also helps us to prepare for the 'O' Levels as we pick up explaining and investigating skills through the process.

**Teo Hui Min, 3E3**

The lesson was very structured as the first worksheet I was given helped me to build my basic foundation on the law of indices. The second worksheet helped me to identify my own mistakes when doing an equation. The last worksheet was a test on how to explain the use of the law of indices which was challenging but through think-pair-share with my classmate, I could understand the topic better. I am more confident in this topic after going through 'Pathway to Reasoning' lessons.

**Dina Teo, 3E3**



## E-colours workshop

Last July, I attended an E-colours workshop organised by my school to **enhance** our self-awareness and improve our communication skills with others. I was amazed that simply by taking a simple survey to identify my **dominant** colour, I could become more aware of my personal **limiters** and strengths.

My dominant colour is green, which reveals my personality to be an independent and **reserved** worker. My classmates have various dominant colours, which illustrate how different we are in our personality styles.



As the instructor talked about the character traits of various dominant colours, I gained a better understanding of my classmates and why they view things differently from me. This definitely helped to **minimise** potential conflicts through a better understanding of how people with different personalities think and react differently in the same situation.

I learnt a very crucial skill called 'personal intervention'. When we face anything unhappy in our daily life, we can 'pause' on the negative answer and 'play' on the positive one, which means that instead of dealing with a situation negatively, we can resolve it positively.

This workshop has helped me to work more efficiently as I can lead my team better through a better understanding of their different personalities and I am more empowered to be more responsive and less reactive when dealing with conflicts or disagreements with others.

**Caleb Yung, 3E4**



This workshop has made me more aware of my own strengths and limiters. I may be a loyal and easy-going person but I am also judgemental. I learnt to think carefully before speaking so that I avoid offending others.

This helped me to work more efficiently in a group as I am also more aware of the different personalities of my group mates. This will help to avoid potential conflict that may arise due to a lack of understanding.

I also learnt how to use 'Personal Intervention' to respond at the right time and to get the desired results. This workshop enabled me to reflect on my personality and to

work on improving my weak areas so that I can be a better person. I learnt that my strengths can become potential limiters if I am not careful and that my potential limiters can become my strengths if I improve on them. This motivated me to aspire to be an all-rounded person with good personality and character.

**Seah Yi Qin, 2E4**

### Vocabulary

<b>enhance</b>	: intensify, increase, or further improve the quality, value, or extent of
<b>dominant</b>	: a core trait
<b>limiters</b>	: people or things that restrict or prevent something from being done
<b>reserved</b>	: slow to reveal emotion or opinions.
<b>minimise</b>	: reduce something to the smallest possible amount or degree



## Creative Expression Through Writing

### Extract from entry that attained 'Gold' award in Commonwealth Essay Competition

#### Let them in

As nightfall dawned on us, everyone laid blankets out on the grass.

"We have good news! They are sending buses to bring us to the border." Adnan - a friend of mine who had lost his right leg to a bomb back in Syria - announced as people gathered around him.

"Where is the guarantee?"

"What if they take us to another camp and treat us badly again? We were already deceived once..."

Silence.

**Syarifah Salmah Nadhirah, 4E2**

(Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition is a prestigious international writing competition organised by the Royal Commonwealth Society, UK)

### Extracts from Essays during 'Monsters Under The Bed' Workshop

#### Gaming Addiction

Gaming addicts spend too much time in between the four walls of their rooms, isolated from their friends, family and the entire world outside their windows. They slowly drift away, encasing themselves in a world of their own.

**Abinaya, 3E3**

#### Friday CCA Day

What is unique about CHR is our Friday CCA Day. It is a day which allows us to take our mind off school work while we connect with our interests. We not only develop crucial values such as discipline and responsibility but also pick up life skills on working as a team.

**Julia, 4E2**

## National Library Writing Workshop



My school held a Creative Writing Workshop organised by the National Library Board and they invited Mr Lansell Taudevin, who is both a musician and author, to conduct the workshop.

Mr Lansell Taudevin had given me an insight into how writers shape their world based on imagination. He shared tips on how we can develop a keener sense of observation of the things around us so that we can improve our writing. I realised that this tip really helped me to write better as I could visualise a scene better and describe it more vividly.

He shared very useful tips that I could apply in my daily school work. For example, he taught us how to write a **captivating** introduction to 'hook' the reader through setting or through something mysterious to stimulate curiosity in the reader. This had greatly helped me in my creative writing in school.

This workshop had enabled me to see things from different perspectives and also to find the 'extraordinary' in common things around us. I definitely hope to attend more of such workshops in future to improve my writing skills.

**Lawrencina Heng, 2E4**

### Vocabulary

**captivating**

: capable of attracting and holding interest; charming





## Learning MTL Through Drama, Music and Wushu



I was thrilled when I was given the opportunity to pick up wushu during my Chinese Language curriculum time. As Jet Li has aptly put it, “Wushu is like an Art.” Chinese martial arts refers to the several hundreds of fighting styles that have developed over the centuries in China. Through my exposure to wushu, I have gained new knowledge and insight into Chinese culture.

It was fascinating that when I first learnt the basic horse stance, it looked simple but challenging to hold the stance in a proper manner. I had to persist in mastering this stance by not giving up halfway. This activity had inculcated in me important values of **tenacity** and perseverance which are essential in mastering wushu moves.

This programme has benefited my classmates and I immensely as we learnt that consistent effort can lead to fruitful results and can also strengthen our bond as classmates when we encourage one another throughout the learning process.

### Kim Sangern, 2E4



Being able to do recording in a music studio was an eye-opening and memorable experience to me. Through the process of learning how to sing the song that was chosen by my teacher, my interest in Chinese Language was **piqued**.

I had to learn the vocal flow and power to match the instruments of the song we were recording. We worked together in groups to perfect our pitch and harmonisation with the song. I was inspired to see my classmate, Mae, practising our school KP Model of ‘Encourage The Heart’ by helping Emmanuel when he had difficulties with perfecting his pitch for the song. As we are constantly encouraged to have the courage to build our dreams, this learning experience also helped me to envision what it would be like to be a deejay or singer.

### Ashley, 2E4

My school organised a series of drama lessons that took place over 10 weeks to train us to speak more confidently and to stimulate our interest in the Chinese Language. Before commencing each lesson, we had to do a breathing exercise so that we can project our voice during our acting. The drama lessons not only helped us to improve our speaking skills but also taught us how to collaborate together as a team.

### Shanice Ng, 1E4

After attending my school’s drama lessons, I learnt to speak more confidently and fluently in Chinese. This programme also helped to improve my proficiency in the language as we were taught how to be creative and to build up on our vocabulary.

Through the group work activities when we had to put up a performance, we gained strong rapport with one another through collaboration. This improved my teamwork skills as I had to learn how to work with my classmates effectively and to respect one another’s differences. My classmates and I had enjoyed the lessons tremendously and they were more inclined to converse with me in the Chinese language after attending the lessons!

### Rebecca Chong, 1E2

#### Vocabulary

- tenacity** : the quality or fact of being very determined
- piqued** : aroused





## We welcome our new staff



**Miss Munira**  
(Student Welfare  
Officer)

I am grateful to be a part of the CHR family that puts great emphasis on the culture of care in the school. With this, I believe that every student can achieve their fullest potential with much nurturance and guidance.

My hope is that I can help in empowering and strengthening students in surmounting life's odds. Like the saying goes, "Nothing is impossible. The word itself says I'm possible" -Audrey Hepburn. Looking forward to have a memorable time here in CHR!

I would like to give thanks to my classmates for always being there for me.

For example, whenever I encounter any problems in my studies, they will guide me. I will never forget their kindness and hope to reciprocate them one day.



**Gary Quah, 3E3**

I would like to show my appreciation to Ms Agnes Goh by providing timely and quality pictures and write-ups about school events, programmes and activities in the termly newsletters that portray the great learning environment in CHR.

**Miss Lee Han, FT of 3E3**



I would like to give thanks to my classmates from my class. From 1N6 to 3N6, I found it hard to believe it has been almost 3 years since I have been in CHR with them.

I honestly could not ask for a better class and I am really thankful. We went through thick and thin together and we had forged stronger bonds over the years.



**Ocampo Rainelle  
Yana Comia, 3N6**



**Ahmad Fuad Ziqry, 3T7**

I would like to give thanks to Dylan as he is caring and gracious by extending a helping hand to me in my studies, especially Mathematics.

He never fails to cheer me up when I feel down. I am grateful for his friendship.

The theme for CHR 2016 "Giving Thanks: Appreciate Each Family" builds on the 2014 theme "Giving Thanks: Appreciate Each Day".

It focuses on developing gratitude in our students at school as the people around them are pivotal in their life journey. Each student interacts with his/her classmates, peers and staff of CHR almost daily. When CHRians learn to give thanks for their friendship and support, as well as demonstrate our RICPF values, it will bring joy and hope to their lives.

I want to thank each and every one of my classmates for making school even more enjoyable and for consistently helping me at times when I needed help during lessons.

Thank you for the memories we have created together everyday!



**Thea Sin, 3E1**

I would like to give thanks to my classmates who give me advice when I face challenges. I am grateful for the help they give me in my studies, especially in Math.

Without them, it would be a struggle for me. I sincerely appreciate them for what they had done for me.



**Sara Wong, 3E2**

I am truly blessed to have a supportive department which helps to nurture the culture of care and growth in our school by showing concern and looking out for one another.

**Mr Bernard Roy, FT of 3E2**



I would like to thank Soon Yong for always being so friendly and cheerful. He never fails to crack jokes whenever I feel stressed.

He is also a helpful friend who never fails to extend a helping hand to those in need.



**Barry Ang, 3E4**

I would like to show my appreciation to my classmates by helping them and giving them solutions to their problems.

Through my interactions with them, I am able to be more empathetic towards them and can understand them better through this. From this, I can learn more about my classmates and forge a closer bond with them.



**Admelina Chan, 3N5**

I would like to give thanks to all students I have taught and worked closely with in CHR this year. This year has been made wonderful, thanks to your presence. Your growth from strength to strength is really a joy to see.

**Mdm Zahara Bte Saiman, FT of 3T7**





# CHR Partnership

## Well wishes for students taking the National Examinations



Dear CHRians,

The definition of success in life differs from person to person. It can be as simple as being a good, responsible and diligent student.

Be consistent, understand your strengths and recognise your weaknesses. Have that 'never say die' attitude. Be disciplined and be consistent in your revision.

Stay focused in your goals.

Give your very best in everything that you do.

It is the journey towards achieving your goals that is important, not just the results. So be focused on what you can do rather than what will happen.

Remember your teachers and friends who have guided you throughout your Secondary School education and cherish them. Joining the Alumni will be a good channel for you to stay in touch. All the best for your upcoming national examinations!

This is just another new beginning.

**Mdm Siti Mariam Bte Ahmad**

**Honorary Secretary of CHR Alumni**



It may seem like an uphill task now, but it's possible to achieve the goals you have. The outcome of your results is entirely up to you.

Believe in yourself and you can achieve anything. For all students who are reading this, I strongly encourage you to build a strong academic foundation as early as possible especially by Secondary Three.

Do not wait until Secondary Four to start studying for the national examinations.

I wish all students who are taking the national examinations all the best!

**Ex-student, Selena Mae (4E5), 2015**

Every problem may not have a solution right now, but don't forget that for every solution, it was once a problem.

### 5 daily reminders:

Believe in yourself

Cultivate a success mindset

Overcome procrastination

Be diligent and hard working

Persevere

You're good to go! All the best!!!



**Miss Rebecca Quek**

**Honorary Treasurer of CHR Alumni**



What worked for me when I was taking my examinations last year was to be very focused at all times when revising or attending my lessons. For example, If I was having my Science lesson, I would forget about everything else and put in my heart and soul to understand my Science. This allowed me to save time later after school as I did not have to struggle to understand the concepts again.

I also studied with friends who are focused in their work so that we will not distract one another.

This is a milestone for the students taking the national examinations this year. I hope that they will make a wise decision before they take the next step with regards to their choice of study.

**Ex-student, Niranjana Gopinath (4E5) 2015**

