



Christ Church Secondary School

CHR Highlights



"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. . " Joshua 1:9

Issue 3/2017

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Emergency Rhino Exercise



In May, my school held an emergency exercise to prepare all staff and students to be ready for any crisis that may happen. This is in line with my school's value on the need to be 'forward-looking'. I feel the exercise is very relevant to us as there are increasing terrorist attacks around the world and Singapore is also at risk.

Once a secret code is announced to the whole school, we had to be in 'lockdown' mode. We locked all doors and windows and turned off all lights and fans after stacking up the tables and chairs to the side of the wall. After my classmate secured the doors with a chair so that intruders could not break in so easily, we hid underneath the tables. I was glad to learn this skill of using a simple chair to lock a door.

As we cannot predict what may happen tomorrow, I feel this drill is very helpful to prepare us to be always ready in times of emergency by staying calm and listening to instructions.

Georgia Forbes,1E3

Through the evacuation drill, I have a heightened awareness of our vulnerability as attacks can happen anytime and to anyone. We see attacks in schools in the United States and other parts of the world so it is crucial for us to know how to react in times of emergency.

My school simulated a scenario where an intruder broke into our school. The exercise taught me to be more aware of my surroundings and that I have to be always ready for any emergency. In addition to that, I learnt a few skills such as how to protect myself by hiding if possible, staying calm and cooperating with my teachers and classmates.

During the lockdown exercise, my classmates and I worked as a team to prepare our class to be in 'lockdown' mode. Time is of the essence so one has to act fast. Cooperation is very important as in a real-life scenario, if anyone of us refuses to cooperate and the intruder manages to break into our classroom, many lives may be lost. This exercise has definitely helped me to understand the importance of cooperation and teamwork in order to ensure that everyone can stay safe in any potentially dangerous situation.

Visho,2N5



Sec 3 Resilience Camp



Last May, I had the opportunity to trek at Gunung Pulai with my classmates during our Resilience Camp. I **underestimated** the difficulty level of the trek and had trouble keeping up with the pace of my peers. I was on the verge of giving up but the encouragement from my peers and my determination to persevere enabled me to conquer the trek successfully. We held hands to give each other strength to move on and took turns to carry the heavy backpacks when anyone of us felt sick. Looking back, the experience helped to build a great sense of camaraderie in my class and created a lot of memorable moments which I would always cherish.

Without the distractions of the gadgets in my life, I found that communication and bonding with my peers improved and I was also surprised that I could push myself to the limit. This experience trained my moral strength as well as endurance and convinced me that I could achieve anything that I set my mind on.

Thaariini, 3E2

The visit to Musuem Johor Lama inspired me when I saw how the **fortitude** of the Johorians shone through in the way they refused to give up and built a fort for defence. They also conserved the ruins in order to preserve their history which definitely demonstrated their strong sense of pride. I learnt that one can strengthen his perseverance by having his mind set on the goal and overcoming challenges or obstacles step by step. It is important to be optimistic in the face of adversity to achieve success.

What I remembered fondly about the camp was the **collaboration** between the SMK Kota Sasal School and my peers to put up a dance performance. The interactions between them had fostered not only a strong friendship but a greater understanding of each other's cultural practices.



Jasper Cheng, 3E2

The visit to Kota Masai school helped me forge new friendships. Their students sacrificed so much of their time and put in a lot of effort in order to spend time with us through various activities. This experience spurred me to keep an open mind, to speak up and learn to interact with strangers confidently. This exchange in the Malaysian school **enhanced** my social skills and to be less shy.

The students in the Malaysian school are very persevering and do not give up easily. Through my exchange with them, I understood that one should always have a positive mindset. 'Each step you take is closer to your goals', so one just needs to keep moving with determination towards his goals to succeed.

Julian Kwok, 3N5

Vocabulary

underestimated

: saw something as less important or great than it really was

fortitude

: courage in pain or adversity

collaboration

: the action of working with someone to produce something

enhanced

: intensified, increased, or further improved the quality, value, or extent of



National Day Celebrations

It was indeed a great honour to be chosen as the Parade Regimental Sergeant Major (PRSM) for the school's National Day Parade (NDP) this year. Every role in the NDP is important from being the Parade Commander to the Guest Of Honour and the contingent. I was tasked to give instructions to the contingent to be ready. The rehearsal were tougher than I expected but through great teamwork from everyone, it was manageable. I cherished the new friendships formed with leaders from other Uniformed Groups.



I felt proud to be involved in the parade as it involved everyone from different races, languages, religions and backgrounds to come together to celebrate Singapore's 52nd Birthday. I am looking forward to celebrating next year's National Day with the school again.

Izwan, 3N6A



I was a bundle of nerves when I was given the opportunity to be one of the emcees of the NDP concert. It was crucial to keep the audience entertained during the intervals and I was worried that I could not do it. However, after numerous rehearsals, I gained more confidence in my emceeing abilities, thanks to the guidance of Ms Diana and encouragement from my peers.

This experience inculcated in me values such as care, responsibility and perseverance. I had to give my best, conquer my fear of facing a huge audience

and support my fellow peers to get the job done. It was a great accomplishment for me and I hope I can have this opportunity to do this again to deliver a much spectacular and amazing performance.



Leena Rozario, 1E4

Racial Harmony Day



On 20th July, my classmates and I set up various booths to commemorate Racial Harmony Day. We wanted the students of different races and cultures to forge stronger bonds with one another. In order to prepare for the activity, we did some research online to learn more about the history of chapteh and the different ways to play it.

Through the preparation process and the booths set up by my peers, I have a deeper understanding of other races. The booths showcased various art forms such as Chinese calligraphy and henna

which gave an insight into other cultures. Through a better understanding of the differences in one another's cultures, we learnt to appreciate one another better. We should not take racial harmony in Singapore for granted and should strive to keep building good relations amongst the different races.

Laudiano Christiana Julianne T, 3E3



Applied Learning Programme (ALP)

The ALP allowed me to gain an insight into a STEM career. I struggled with my ALP lessons initially as I lacked the interest in electronics and programming. However, with the help of my teachers and peers, I find it manageable and was inspired by the successes of the ALP projects done by my seniors.

I enjoyed learning about the different electrical components such as breadboard and how they are combined to form a product. Many of them are used to make our lives easier, such as the use of sensors in public toilets and the motors installed in HDB lifts. Apart from acquiring more knowledge, ALP has also **boosted my self-esteem**. I am now more confident and have become a better team player. Overall, I think that the ALP benefits students by opening up paths for their future endeavours.



Outing to Google company during the June holidays

De Guzman Angel Bulaon, 2E3

The ALP lessons have been enlightening as I am given opportunities to learn new and fun things such as how to use a breadboard and Arduino. There were complex and technical skills which I have never imagined I could do, such as programming and connecting electronic applications like the LED and buzzer.

The ALP also helped me in learning the types of sensors that I did not know existed like the PIR sensor and tilt sensor. Not only was ALP fun, it also allowed me to innovate and create new gadgets for the elderly. The process of making and seeing our ideas come to life is very rewarding. It also teaches us life skills on problem solving through the design process.

Shannon Goh, 2E2

The ALP has stimulated my creativity as I have to constantly brainstorm for ideas and to think out of the box. I learnt how to express our ideas using a sketch to a form in 3D. I evaluated the design process by discussing the advantages and disadvantages of my group's design before deciding whether I could use it in our daily lives. It is very much relevant to my daily life as I examined the practicality of my group's idea. I enjoyed the process of making the structure as I collaborated with my peers to make it work. I am encouraged to go through the process of how a creator starts with an idea and tries to make it happen.

Irra Zulaiqah, 2T7

ALP has taught me to put my creative ideas to help others. My group made a prototype to help the elderly remember when to take their medication and how to get help if they are alone at home in an emergency situation. It not only improves the quality of the life of the elderly but also reduces the burden of the caregivers of the elderly.

To ensure that the prototype is user-friendly, my group interviewed nurses to improve the prototype and we received valuable feedback. It was definitely an enriching experience to have the opportunity to work as a team with my peers to create our own product.



Small group interview sessions with professionals

Shevonne Ang, 2N5

Vocabulary

boosted my self-esteem : increased one's confidence
endeavours : attempts to achieve a goal



Environment



On the 30th of March 2017, twenty-three students and two teachers from the Fazlani L'Académie Globale, Bombay, India visited CHR. The purpose of their visit was to learn about our school's environmental practices. They were accompanied by two officials from the Singapore Environment Council.

After the visitors made a brief presentation of their school's environmental practices in the Drop-In-Centre, I led them to the Physics Lab with **exuberance** and showed them how to make soap using recycled cooking oil. They had never heard of recycling cooking oil for the purpose of soap making.

The visitors were very participative and volunteered to make the soap. They patiently stirred the sodium hydroxide and oil mixtures in the beakers and also made candles using recycled glass. I shared with them how we grew kang kong using recycled PET bottles.

After the hands-on activities, we took the students and teachers on a tour of the school garden. As it was raining, the students had to observe the plants and vegetables grown at the Garden-by-the-Fence from the shelter near the canteen. They were especially impressed by the white brinjals along the fence. It was a fantastic experience for me to share my knowledge with my new friends from India and I am thankful for the opportunity to improve my presentation skills.

Harry Tok, 4E4

I had a fun yet educational time with the students. I learnt about the school's environment in India and what they did to conserve the environment. Additionally, I had the opportunity to educate them on what our school did to help the environment such as recycling used oil to make soap and many more. It was a great pleasure to interact with the students and learn from one another. I made many new friends through this experience and hope to keep in touch with them even after they return to India.

Tiang Soon Yong, 4E4

In July, my school hosted Northoaks Primary School students and conducted a Soap Making Workshop. I was selected to be an emcee for the segment. It was pretty nerve-racking to be standing in front of the Primary schoolers. Throughout this entire experience, I demonstrated traits such as responsibility when I ensured that I performed my duties to the best of my abilities. Each Green Champion was assigned to a pair of Primary schoolers and it was our duty to guide and mentor them on what to do and what not to do in the lab.



They were very **ebullient** to see the **diverse** flora in our garden. One student even asked me if he could bring home the fruits that was given to him during the demonstration. I learnt to model the way to my school mates and our visitors.

Fajutag John Francis Fajarillo, 1E4

Vocabulary

exuberance	: the quality of being full of energy, excitement, and cheerfulness
ebullient	: cheerful and full of energy
diverse	: showing a great deal of variety; very different

HONOURS DAY (STUDENTS)



On 31st March 2017, I was part of the student investiture held for the first time at St Andrew's Cathedral. It was a **humbling** experience as we were led into the cathedral by the new Council President to recite our student leaders' pledge. It was a solemn occasion so I was fraught with anxiety but it was also an eye-opening experience.

The highlight was when everyone stood together to sing the hymns at the end. It was very **surreal** when everyone stood together to sing them. The melody of the chimes, the **mellifluousness** of our vocals as well as the grandeur of the whole place was a heart-warming and proud moment for me.

As a student leader, I see myself as a role model to my peers and I have to be responsible and decisive in my actions. The leadership training sessions boosted my public speaking skills especially in front of a huge audience. One of the camps I attended this year had given me exposure to various leadership styles and I learnt how to improve my leadership skills.

As a result of the exposure I have received as a student leader, I am now able to step up whenever I am required to and to step back to allow others the opportunities to stretch their potential.

For example, during the recent Chinese Language competition this year, I led my group to brainstorm for ideas. As a student leader, I aspire to be able to make a positive influence.

Babu Regan Eshwar, 3E4

I feel that a student councillor is not only one who upholds the school values of responsibility, integrity, care, perseverance and forward-looking but universal values as well. A student councillor must be **unwavering** in his or her principles and personal beliefs by not giving in to peer pressure.

My aspiration is to model the way for fellow CHRians to follow and to continue to uphold my school's values even after I graduate from CHR. I hope to inspire others to act the same way too.

My recent involvement in the leadership camp 'Chrysalis' has developed my confidence and leadership abilities. The activities has equipped me with better public speaking skills which proved to be useful when I need to lead others.



The highlight of it all was when I saw my parents beaming with pride as I stood on stage. The feeling was incredible. I was **exhilarated** that I had done my parents proud.

Roshan, 2E3

Vocabulary

humbling	: not proud or arrogant; modest
surreal	: having the disorienting, hallucinatory quality of a dream or unreal
mellifluousness	: sweet-sounding
unwavering	: steady, firm or resolute
exhilarated	: very happy, elated





Ms Nur Amalina who works in the General Office, has inspired me in the way she carries out her duties dutifully.

She is a role model to me as she is caring, cheerful and considerate.



Mildred, 3E1

I want to thank the school librarian, Ms Masita, for always being so kind-hearted & generous towards all the students. I used to go to the library during Mother-Tongue periods and she would always offer me or my friends a portion of her food whenever she takes her break. She has never failed to boost my mood whenever I am stressed.



Christiana, 3E3

I would like to give thanks to my form teacher, Mr Bek. He has helped me a lot with my academic work and also when I have difficulties in life. He is always there for me when I am in doubt and to listen to my problems.



Syafiqah, 3N5

I really appreciate his concern and I think that he is one of the greatest teachers in CHR.

I would like to give thanks to Mdm Lithya. She is someone who understands all our difficulties and circumstances without being judgemental. I am extremely grateful to her for listening to my problems.

She is my favourite staff in CHR as she is always ready to help everyone with a sincere and kind heart.



Dashini, 3N6A

I would like to express my gratitude to Ms Diana for her guidance and patience towards me throughout the year. No words can express her care and constant kindness towards my classmates and me.

I would like to thank her for helping me understand the consequences of my actions and giving me advice whenever I needed it. She is the best teacher ever!



Liwani, 3N6B

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 would like to thank Mr Hisham, CHR's security guard, for not only keeping us safe and secure but always putting on his best smile when we greet him.



Mac, 3E2

Thanks to him, we are able to start and end the day on a happy note. I feel that we should appreciate him for staying late on some days to lock up the school and for giving us a secure environment to study and play without worries.

The EAS staff has been very caring and friendly to all the CHRians whenever we need help. They work tirelessly to help students, be it with simple tasks like managing class keys to doing administrative work. Nevertheless, they always greet us with a smile which is uplifting to our spirits.



Shannevie, 3E4

I am blessed to have dedicated staff in my school who quietly work behind the scenes to ensure administrative processes are smooth. This helps us to have a conducive experience in school.

I would like to give thanks to my ML unit colleagues Mdm Roslina, Mdm Rahimah, Mdm Zahara & Miss Zulaika for all the support and guidance all these years.

Whenever I am in doubt about anything (be it school matters or personal issues) they are willing to listen and share useful advice.

I am never left alone to walk alone in times of challenge. Thank you for being wonderful colleagues and my pillar of strength.



**Mdm Siti
Nursyahidah,
FT of 3N5**

I would like to thank Mr Firdaus for being caring and taking the time to not only teach us English but also how to be a better person.

I admire the way he talks to us as he is always able to change the way we think through his words. This shows his impact on our class.



Gabriel, 3T7





ALUMNI HOMECOMING



Ms Seah Jiemin with her ex-students



Sally Ong, our Alumni volunteer manning the booth with our student councillors



Madeline Goh giving her speech

This is our 5th year ever since CHR Alumni was set up and I am glad the home-coming has gathered all current CHRians and ex-CHRians together for a common objective which not only affirms our friendships but also acknowledges the importance of staying connected to CHR which has contributed to who we are today.

We have set up the Mustard Seed Fund to recognise and reward students for their excellence across all AOP domains. We sincerely encourage all CHRians to join us after graduation and come together to make Christ Church Secondary School an outstanding institution for teaching and learning.

Madeline Goh

President of CHR Alumni

Parent Support Group (PSG) WISHES FOR STAFF

We are really appreciative to Ms Seah Jiemin for her care and passion towards teaching and guiding my son, Gavin.

Thanks to her commitment, she helped Gavin secure two EAE interviews for his dream courses. May God bless Ms Seah for her greatness, kindness and always being there for her students.

I hope that the fire in her will continue burning and ignite the potential in her students.

Sam Ong

Parent of Gavin Ong, 4E2

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to be invited to the Graduation ceremony, which was a very emotional & touching event for us.

I find the teachers in CHR extremely helpful and would specially like to thank Mr Tan Zhuo Guan for his care and guidance to Ryan and his classmates. He is a very dedicated teacher who put in effort to ensure all his D&T students did well in their work.

I also appreciate Mr Desmond, the overall in-charge of CHR Parent Support Group for organising the activities and events which I enjoyed very much.

Annie Tan

Parent of Ryan, 4E3 (2016)

