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NURTURING NEW WORLD-READY YOUTHS

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In this Issue....

<u>Content</u>	<u>Pages</u>
• Stars in Spotlight	2-9
• Stars in Action	10-13
• Teachers in Spotlight	14-17



Yes We Can! Mini Wind Turbine Competition 2010

The Engineering Week 2010, an annual event, organised by The Engineering Promotion Task Force, was host to a Mini Turbine Competition for Secondary School students. The contest was a design and build competition with two teams from Hong Kah participating in the event. Their main task was to construct a mini wind turbine to generate power that would light up the most number of LEDs. Participants were also encouraged to use

recycled materials for the construction of the mini wind turbines.

A Preliminary round was held in The Republic Polytechnic on the 18th of August 2010. Two teams consisting of our pupils beat 72 teams from reputed schools and made it to the top 23 teams that entered the final round.

The Final Competition was held at Scape Orchard on the 4th of September 2010. Judged by eminent scholars from various polytechnics, the team comprising of Samantha Bay, Joni Tan, Tan Hui Ling and Lek Jian Hong, all students of Secondary 3A, emerged as champions in the Most Innovative Design category. They were also adjudged, by public voting, the 2nd Runners up in the Most Favourite Design category.

Under the able guidance of Mrs. Er, Hong Kah lites once again proved that they had the talent and the ability to compete with the very best.

STARS IN SPOTLIGHT

Retirement Plans at 15!

Young Hong Kah lites advocate financial literacy.

For teenagers, to conceive the message of advocating financial literacy and retirement planning among the youth is an alien task that is challenging to say the least. On the 4th of November 2010, the students of HKSS participated in a contest that asked them to do precisely that. Organised jointly by The Central Provident Fund Board and The Singapore Polytechnic School of Business, the event, CPF Connects! Get a Life! attracted participants from schools across the city of Singapore. Participating teams had to exercise their creative muscles to come up with an interesting message conveying the need for financial planning and retirement plans on CPF Life. All the creative platforms were left open for the students to explore be it skits, jingles, video clips, songs or onstage performances to put forward the advertising message.

Three students from HKSS viz. Rafley from 3N4, Chen Mi Yi from 3T1 and Nabil from 2Na sang jingles that stressed on the purpose and benefits of CPF. The jingles were pleasing to the ear and were persuasive to the listener. These students from HKSS were awarded with the 1st runners up position which was accompanied by a cheque for 1000 SGD. Hopefully; they will heed their own message and start saving up for the future!



page

02

page

03

A creative platform for Technological Innovation CREATE2011

“ The key to success is to risk thinking unconventional thoughts. Convention is the enemy of progress. If you go down just one corridor of thought you never get to see what’s in the rooms leading off it.” The sentiments of this quotation by Trevor Baylis were evoked by Kaung Myat San, Supratik Banerjee and Ye Htet Myet from 3A when they participated the CREATE2011.

CREATE2011 is an annual engineering challenge organised by the Creators of Tomorrow in collaboration with the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), Nokia and the Science Centre. The Challenge for the participants was to come up with a brilliant idea related to the theme of Future Mobility, one which could improve the way we play, think, live and connect.

Keeping the theme of the contest in mind, Team Hong Kah come out with the idea of a futuristic and environment friendly software called T2GPS.

T2GPS stands for Tracking Taxi Global Positioning System. Once installed in smart phones the user can activate GPS by clicking on the software, following which it can track the distance of the user from taxis. When the nearest taxi & the destination are selected, it will send a message to the driver’s GPS screen. Once taxi driver accepts it, other unselected taxis will disappear from the phone and the user can see the selected taxi coming. If the driver declines it, that taxi will disappear and the user can select another taxi. Taxi drivers can now have the luxury of parking their taxis at the designated taxi parking areas and track the passengers with the T2GPS system. By doing so, the taxi service providers can reduce their cost on fuel and increase the efficiency of the services provided. Saving petrol can lessen the burden on natural resources and reduce the production of carbon dioxide.

This environment friendly and innovative software highly impressed the judges and as a result Team Hone Kah emerged as one of the top ten finalists of the CREATE2011 challenge.

Kudos to Team Hong Kah!



04

page

05

page

STARS IN SPOTLIGHT

Mad For Maths!

The students of HKSS recently participated in a school-level mathematics aptitude test organized by the west zone centre of excellence for Mathematics. Also known as the All Singapore Secondary Mathematics Competition, the event provided a platform for students with acumen for Maths to showcase their problem solving skills and logical ability.

The subject teachers nominated 5 students from 2N1, 2T1, 4N1 and 4T1, all of whom were subjected to an online test via the Ace Learning portal on the subjects of Algebra, Geometry and Probability. Based on their performance, 3 students from each of the above mentioned classes were selected for participation in the inter-school event. Training sessions were organized for the participants in which they were coached on problem-solving techniques and ways to deal with MCQs in a quick and efficient manner. Sample questions were provided to the students to make them comfortable about the format and at the end of the preparatory session, a trial competition was also organized to familiarise them with the electronic mode of examination.

In the final event, Nur Fitriaina Bte Abdul Samad of 2N1 won the 7th position in the Lower Secondary Normal Academic Individual section, Muhammad Shafiq B Yusoff of 4T1 won the 12th position in the Upper Secondary Normal Technical Individual category and the Lower Secondary Normal Academic team comprising of Fitriaina, Li Zhi and Choon Keat from 2N1 won the 9th position. A total of 876 students from 76 different schools in Singapore had participated in the event.

Congratulations to all the winners.



Kindness is still a virtue for young hearts.



Kindness is an intrinsic quality in everyone. However in our hectic daily life, we seem to have forgotten this value. The Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM) is an annual event that encourages everyone to start, show and share kindness.

The Friend of Singa (FOS) Project was launched as a platform to help the youth realize the promise of kindness. The FOS 2010 was open

to all students in the primary and secondary schools, junior colleges, ITE colleges, polytechnics, universities, special schools and Singapore international schools.

Participating schools were invited to nominate up to five students for this Award. These participants had the honour of being official ambassadors of Friend of Singa and were entrusted with the responsibility of completing a project. The Singapore Kindness Movement hoped to encourage their peers to emulate their fine example by giving the participants such recognition.

The SKM Kindness Project in Hong Kah involved all the pupils in writing notes of kindness and kindness poems. This project was spearheaded by five of our FOS ambassadors Alice (2A), Simon (3A), Simin (3B), Melissa (4N1) and Aida (4T1). Their hard work paid off when they attained the Singapore Kindness Movement Merit Award on the 2nd of Oct at the Republic Polytechnic. They received the award from Dr Sheryn Mah, the President of MILK Fund. Once again Hong Kah lites proved that "Getting money is not all a man's business: to cultivate kindness is a valuable part of the business of life." ~Samuel Johnson



STARS IN SPOTLIGHT

page

06

Ex Hong Kah Lites elected to top position of Student Management Committee in ITE College Central!

ITE College Central comprises of 5 compuses - Balestier, Bishan, Macpherson, Tampines & Yishun

Kenneth Cheng had undergone an intensive interview by the Principal and other student leaders, before being elected to the top positions by his own peers. He has been elected as the President of the Student Council for Yishun campus. In addition, he is also being elected as the Chairperson of the College Central Student Council Central Committee. He and his team will be in charge of looking after the well-being, and planning activities for over 9000 students across the 5 campuses. We also received another good news that another ex Hong Kah Lite from 2006 batch, Dovan Wong,, has been elected as the Vice-President of the Student Council for the Yishun Campus.



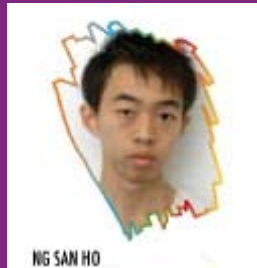
page

07



Ex-Hong Kah Lite awarded Outstanding Graduate in Republic Polytechnic.

Our Ex-Hong Kah Lite has made the school proud in achieving the Best in Module Award for Environmental Education and Customer Relationship Management at Republic Polytechnic. Congratulations to Ng San Ho.



Ex-Hong Kah Lite awarded Scholarship in Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

The following pupils were awarded the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Scholarship for their Outstanding Academic Performance:

- 1) Bay Si Yao (Graduated in 2007)
- 2) Loo Zhan Quan Gary (Graduated in 2008)
- 3) Loo Jia Yi (Graduated in 2009)
- 4) Ng Ai Jing (Graduated in 2009)

Congratulations to all of them. The school is proud of their achievements.



STARS IN SPOTLIGHT

Ex-Hong Kah Lite awarded Outstanding Graduate in ITE.

Our Ex-Hong Kah Lite has made the school proud in achieving the Outstanding Graduate in Mechanical Technology at ITE College Central School of Engineering. Congratulations to Mohd Asraf B Suratman, Class of 2006.



FUN WITH ENGLISH!

EL CARNIVAL @ W4

These smiling faces are parting of the wining team at the EL Carnival @ W4.

True to the theme of 'Celebrate the fun and joy in learning English together', 5 secondary schools from W4 came together to enjoy an afternoon of fun and games as they played language games and showcased their talents. Teams played their way through language games such as Taboo and Bingo before ending the day at the hall where they watched Poetry Slam performances by Hua Yi Secondary School and Hong Kah Secondary School and heard entertaining stories by storytellers from Jurongville Secondary School. A Story Challenge competition was also held in tandem with games. The result of such an exciting lineup? Students were observed chattering in English throughout the afternoon!



Humanities Trip to Cambodia.

From 27 October to 1 November 2010, we had the privilege to go on a 6 day Humanities Trip to Cambodia. There were 23 pupils and 4 teachers involved in this trip. We had great opportunities to learn about the culture and lives of people in Cambodia. Personally, it made us really appreciate what we have in Singapore.

Our visit to Samdech Euv High School in Siem Reap, Cambodia was fun and meaningful. The students were very friendly and approachable. The classrooms in their schools were very different from ours as there are no lights and fans. Although it was not a convenient place to study in, we were impressed with the pupils' enthusiasm and eagerness to learn.

Our team conducted a Community Involvement Project (CIP) work at one of the poorest primary schools in a rural village. The children at the school do not have school. As part of our CIP work, we purchased a set of stationery for every pupil. We also prepared a small loaf of bread with sardine for the children. The Cambodian kids do not give up easily and they have the will to learn despite the lack of textbooks and a proper environment to study in. The trip to the Tonle Sap Lake was a great experience as we learnt what the people living in the floating village do for a living. We were also surprised to learn at the Cambodian Cultural Village that the population in Cambodia was much more diverse than Singapore as they have 19 different ethnic groups who embrace different cultures of their own.

The highlight of our trip was the visit to the Angkor Thom and Angkor Wat. The complex was really gigantic, given the fact that it was built during an era when the technology was not very advanced. We are impressed by the successful effort of Cambodia to conserve their historical sites. It is also a good way for them to retain their past and generate income for the country through tourism.

On the last day in Cambodia, we visited the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. We looked through the pictures and instruments which the Khmer Rouge regime used to torture their own people during the civil war. This caused us to realise the importance of having good governance in a country. The experience at the museum made us reflect on how fortunate we are to live in Singapore where there is peace and harmony in the country.



STARS IN ACTION

page

10

page

11

NPCC Educational Trip to Hong Kong.



Hong Kah Secondary School NPCC Unit went for an Overseas Educational Visit to Hong Kong from 9 to 13 November 2010.

3 Teacher Officers (Mr. Edwin You, Mrs. Jamie Chia and Mr. Roger Loo) and 26 cadets visited places such as the Hong Kong Police Museum, Hong Kong Correctional Services Department and Police Coastal Defense Museum to learn more about the history of the Police Force and how it evolved to its present day status. We also had a chance to watch the daily Flag Lowering ceremony at the Golden Bauhinia Square. It was an eye-opener for our cadets.

The main highlight was when we went to Madam Lau Kum Lung Secondary School for an educational exchange. The cadets broke into smaller groups and attended classroom lessons such as English, Mathematics, Cooking and Needlework, together with the local students. The cadets also had a chance to interact further with the local students through the discussion of how schools can promote racial harmony in different countries. The session ended with a sumptuous vegetarian lunch and photo-taking.

On the lighter side, the cadets also had a fantastic time visiting interesting scenic places at Lantau island, i.e. the Tai-O Fishing Village and the Giant Buddha at Ngong Ping, and Ocean Park.

Through the 5-day trip, the cadets bonded well with one another and also built friendship with their Hong Kah counterparts, which will prove to be one of their most unforgettable experiences.

RACIAL HARMONY DAY CELEBRATION.

Racial harmony day is a significant day in Hong Kah where everyone, including our teachers are encouraged to wear traditional costumes. On this day, costumes from different cultures were present and it was a magnificent sight.



During the morning assembly, a video based on racial harmony from MOE was presented to us. It talked about how a Singaporean student who communicates with people of different races in his school.



It taught us how we should warmly welcome our foreign classmates/schoolmates and give them the feeling of belonging in Singapore. It was definitely very enlightening as our school has a relatively large group of foreign students.

YOG World Cultural Village.

HKSS also set up a booth at the World Cultural Village held at the heart of the Youth Olympic Square. The village is a platform for visitors to meet up with one another and with Singaporeans youths hosting the booths. Each booth features one of the participating National Olympic Committee.

The HKSS booth was on Cameroon. The students and teachers-in-charge of the booth planned a series of fun activities for visitors to take part in. These include flag painting and mask painting. The students and Mr Ng Han Liat even dressed up in traditional Cameroon costumes!

The students enjoyed their interactions with athletes and sports officials from around the world, countries as far flung as Kyrgyzstan and Suriname!

A bonus - the group even had a chance meeting with Mr C Kunalan!



STARS IN ACTION

page

12

OUR OLYMPIANS & TORCH BEARERS.

Our three Olympian - Ammirul Emmran Bin Mazlan of 3T1, Muhammad Firdaus Bin Mohd Sham of 3N2 and Hamzah Fazil of 2T2 - have put HKSS on the map in the sporting scene both locally and internationally.

Prior to the YOG, the boys put in many hours of hard work and went on a two week training trip to London.

For all three boys, winning a bronze medal was an unbelievable dream. They were incredibly proud that they got to take part in such a big event, showcasing Singapore to the world.

These were not the only highlights of their Youth Olympic Game journey. Hamzah enjoyed his time at the Athletes Village, where he got to bond even closer with his team. They also attended parties and got to meet athletes from around the world.

Another event the boys enjoyed was the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the games.



For Juliani Bte Mohamad Aripin of 4B and Muhammad Khidir Hidayatullah of 2N2, their few minutes of glory took place on 12 August (Thursday) when the torch made its way to the South West district.

Both of them were chosen to be a torch bearer of the Youth Olympic Values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect, Juliani and Khidir were nominated by their teachers to apply for the role of the torchbearer.

Both were overjoyed to be picked to participate in the torch relay.



page

13

HKSS CARING TEACHER AWARD 2010

Five teachers and one allied educator were presented with the HKSS Caring Teacher Award for their dedication and love for the pupils.



Mdm. Tay Su Moi
Science Teacher
Her pupils say:

- She motivates us. She has big dreams for us. She sets a target for us and teaches us with her fullest energy. Even if the class fails, she never gives up. She is willing to stay another period every Wednesday to help us out when we have doubts.
- Even though she nags at us, I understand very well she is showing her care and concern for us. Majority of the teachers would nag at their pupils for not doing well in their studies without finding out the root of the problem. This teacher is different. After she nags and gives advice to the whole class, she would chat with me to find out my problem.
- When I failed my common test, she encouraged me. She did not show her disappointment. She is always encouraging us to be the best we can.
- No matter how angry she is with the classmates who have upset her, she still thinks positively about the students who are willing to learn. She really tries very hard. Sometimes she would be so stressed that she would fall sick.
- She asks what problems we have and helps us solve them. She changed my friend's attitude. My friend was so touched after listening to her advice that she cried.

Mdm. Tay leads, care and inspires.

Mdm. Carene Sim Ching Tee
Design & Technology Teacher



Mdm. Sim leads, care and inspires.

Her pupils say:

- I realised her kindness when she lectured us about the importance of our discipline and own beliefs.
- She called some of us out - those whom she thinks have leadership potential but are too lazy and like to follow what friends do.
- She told us to believe in ourselves and do what we can. If we have questions we can ask her for help.
- I remembered doing exercises together with her on ACES day. During the cross-country race, her words of encouragement spurred me on to achieve the 9th position.
- Her lessons are very interesting. She makes them fun and easy to understand and she will teach us until the entire class gets it. She also gives a lot of homework. Although it is very stressful, it is worthwhile.
- She is funny but can be strict - which is a great way to get the class to keep quiet. She also has a sense of humour. She is caring and patient. She also teaches us how to study smart, treasure time and be well-organised.
- She has made me realise that in everything I do, I must have perseverance. She is an understanding teacher who allows us make mistakes and learn from them. She gives us room to grow and makes us understand the way of life and encourages us not to follow what others do.

page

14

TEACHERS IN SPOTLIGHT

HKSS CARING TEACHER AWARD 2010

Mrs. Yeo-Chng Woei Ling
Level Head (English Language)

Her pupils say:

- She is sincere in wanting to change our lives by patiently explaining to us our wrongdoings.
- She never fails to encourage us on what to do. She will tell us her life experiences and through her stories, we learn important values. I used to have a problem with my attendance. After listening to her story, I am now coming to school regularly.
- Her praises and words of appreciation are a pillar of support for us. Her words motivate us to achieve more. It was her compliment that has fuelled me to work harder so as not to let her down and to earn more compliments.
- She always believes that I can speak well in public even though not every teacher thinks so.
- At times when I feel like giving up, she will get me back on my feet and on the right track again. When it was my turn for my oral exam, I attempted to run away. She told me, in her caring voice, to try my best. After the exam, she explained my strengths and weaknesses. If she does not care for me, she would have given me a zero.
- She takes care of her students like a mother and she can also discipline them. She never stops inspiring her students to behave well. She may be fierce but she is actually kind-hearted.



Mrs. Yeo leads, care and inspires.



Ms. Tan Pei Wen
Humanities Teacher

Her pupils say:

- I understood her lessons so well that I passed my tests and exams with flying colours. Once I was very rude and naughty, instead of scolding me, she asked me if anything was wrong and how she could help me. She believes that everybody deserves a second chance.
- My classmate was involved in a serious discipline case but she gave him a second chance to change his attitude and buck up in his studies. Now my classmate is behaving better and has even earned a Thumbs-up badge.
- She is friendly and approachable. Whenever I greet her, she would greet me warmly with a smile. When I see her in school, she would say "hello" to me and encourage me to do better in all my subjects.
- She is my CCA teacher-in-charge. She cares for our team even though we always lose. She would buy breakfast for us if we have games in the morning. No matter rain or shine, she will be there for us. She takes care of our every need for every tournament. I used to hate studying but she keeps talking to me and motivating me. Now I listen to her.
- Once I had an ankle injury and could not train with my team mates, she was there to encourage me. After my ankle has healed, she would often ask if my ankle still bothers me.
- She has a strong relationship with her pupils and we feel comfortable discussing and sharing problems with her. She is committed to attend every lesson, to teach us one by one.

Ms. Tan leads, care and inspires.

page

15

HKSS CARING TEACHER AWARD 2010



Mr. Koh Hoe Yap
Mathematics Teacher

His pupils say:

- He is an awesome teacher. He makes us understand better by explaining very clearly. He takes at most two or three explanations and we will all understand the lesson. He always encourages us to study hard. Not only does he care about our results, he also cares about our attitudes.
- Although he punishes me, I understand that he just wants me to know my mistakes and learn from them. He is very strict but he is not unreasonable. He wants all of us to be disciplined and well-behaved.
- He called us one by one to find out what problems we faced. He tries hard to understand everyone's difficulty and help us solve our problems. He shares his stories about his secondary school life to encourage us.
- He always wants us to keep our classroom clean. We don't like to do our duties but we realise that when the classroom is clean, it is more comfortable to have lessons. He wants our class to be the best. He doesn't want us to dirty the school property so we have table cloths.
- He treats us like his sons or daughters. He is just like a father, a great father to all of us. I wish he will always be my form teacher.

Mr. Koh leads, care and inspires.

Mr. Muhammad Radzif Anif
Allied Educator



Mr. Radzif leads, care and inspires.

His pupils say:

- I nominate this teacher because he makes the lesson interesting by playing games like 'hangman' so we can learn how to spell some of the words in the chapter.
- He is very strict with us and makes sure we always complete our work. However he also has a good sense of humour. As long as we do our work, he would be nice to us.
- Although he scolds me, I know it is out of care and concern. He wants us to do good and try our best.
- A few weeks ago, I injured my arm. It still hurts sometimes. This teacher bought ice for me to put on my arm. I was very touched. He always checks on my grooming like me hair. If it is not proper, he would tell me to cut my hair.
- Whenever I have any family problems, he will listen to me and help me. If I do not know how to do my homework in other subjects, he would help me too. Therefore I nominated him as the Most Caring Teacher.

TEACHERS IN SPOTLIGHT

page

16

CENTRE OF ATTACTION!

The English Department teachers sharing on AFL during The English Language Teacher Seminar (ELTS)



Teacher hard at work during the MOE Excel Fest 2010



page

17



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