

# September Issue

Dear Parents / Guardians,

## Happy, Birthday, Singapore!

As a prelude to the National Day Celebrations, everyone at Xingnan got to celebrate National Day together as One Team Singapore through sports during a week-long sporting bash. Pupils and staff bonded over sports like modified football, modified hurdles, skipping and aerobic dance.

On 8 August 2018, Xingnan Primary School roared to life as we celebrated Singapore's 53rd birthday! Xingnanians played different childhood games such as top, hopscotch and congkak to experience games of the past. Pupils and staff created artwork to express their thoughts and feelings towards Singapore at booths set up by teachers.

The day got more exciting as National Day songs echoed through the hall. Enthusiastic pupils sang along during the concert! We got into the groove doing our own Xingnan wave and moved to the beat of the neighbourhood workout! Nothing beats the feeling of tremendous pride we have for Singapore as we sang our national anthem and recited the pledge while reliving 'Joseph Schooling's' historic Olympic win.

This year's National Day celebration was yet another meaningful way for Xingnanians to remember our nation's rise to independence and success.

*CCE Department & PE/CCA & Aesthetics Department*



## Upcoming Events

### August 27 to September 14

Edusave Character Award (ECHA) nomination period

### September 14

PSLE Listening Comprehension  
Home-based Learning Day

### September 20 to September 24

School- Based Mid-Autumn  
Festival activities

### September 27 to October 3

PSLE Written Examination

## Quality Learning Experiences

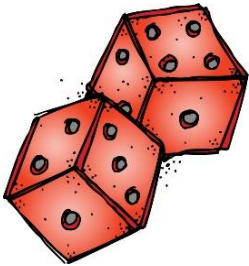
### Learning on their Own!

As our P6 pupils came to school for their PSLE Oral early August, our P1 – P5 pupils were engaged in online learning at home. Teachers curated meaningful online lessons for our pupils and made them available through various platforms such as Google sites, Edmodo, Koobits and Student Learning Space (SLS). The online assignments were designed purposefully to facilitate self-directed learning among our pupils. Thank you, parents, for your support in the teaching and learning of our pupils!



*ICDM Department*

### Math is Fun with Numbers!



“Oh, no! Minus 15!” The onlookers gasped as the dice was rolled. The player took 15 steps back on the giant 100-chart with a reluctant smile. One dice consisted of even and odd numbers (2, 4, 6, 3, 5 and 7). The other dice was for risk-takers ( $\pm 5$ ,  $\pm 10$  and  $\pm 15$ ).

At the other side of the Multi-Purpose Court (MPC), pupils held their catch proudly with their fishing rods. After solving an equation, they had to look for the corresponding numbered fish in the pond. Besides allowing pupils to have fun with numbers, this activity presented 24 pupils the opportunity to serve as student helpers to ensure participants play and learn safely and collaboratively.

*Mathematics Department*

## Designing Modular CCA (MoCCA) @ Xingnan for Peers!



MoCCA at Xingnan provides pupils with the opportunities and experiences to acquire knowledge, skills and values. Our pupils are introduced to a variety of modules like Chess, Cup-stacking, Tambourine and Dance during Module 3 of MoCCA.

As part of the X<sup>3</sup> Learning Years Programme @ Xingnan, our Primary 5 pupils transformed and extended their learning experiences by embarking on a refreshing mode of MoCCA where they themselves became trainers! The P5 trainers planned their sessions and got their peers to sign up for the sessions that they were interested in. Some of the innovative sessions introduced were Baking, Calligraphy, Pen tapping, K Pop Dance and Glue Art. Providing pupils the empowerment to self-design and promote the sessions helped them to discover more about their strengths and weaknesses. Pupils got to exercise choice and develop their decision-making skills as they collaborated and discovered how to run the MoCCA module for their level.



“There’s so much creativity in the pupils. It amazes me how they use pens to create music, use lyrics to create dance moves, use foam balls and cotton to create their own ‘squishies’. In fact, I am also learning from them!” said Miss Francesca Wah, the Head of Level for Primary 5.

*P5 Level and PE/ CCA & Aesthetics Department*



## A Word of Encouragement Goes a Long Way!

*“Correction does much but encouragement does more.”*

*– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

This quote by the German writer, Johann Wolfgang, encompasses the objectives of the engagement sessions that were organised for our P6 pupils in July. The P6 teachers wrote a personal note for each pupil in their Form Class. It was heart-warming to see our pupils beam with delight when they received their notes of encouragement. Teachers were equally ecstatic when their pupils presented them with a thank-you note. A simple yet meaningful act brings joy to many.

*P6 Level & CCE Department*



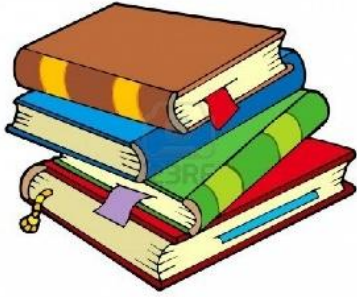
### **Introducing Primary 4 CPES Crosstalk Comedy 2018**

Loud laughter could be heard across the auditorium as the audience could not stop themselves! The comedians kept our Primary 4 pupils engaged by incorporating Singapore Style language into the crosstalk performance. Crosstalk or *Xiangsheng* (相声) meaning 'face and voice' is a traditional Chinese comedic performing Arts. Traditionally, crosstalk takes on a serious tone and is difficult to understand. It was indeed amazing how Chinese Culture and Crosstalk remained deeply embedded despite the use of Colloquial Singaporean Chinese during the performance. Our pupils learnt about the different styles of crosstalk and the roles they played. Now they know that crosstalk can be performed by 1,2 or more people, making it so captivating!

*Mother Tongue Department*

## Creative Writers in the Making!

Our very own budding writers took part in a story writing competition organised by Civica



known as Tales for 'S' – a competition intended to showcase the writing talents of Singapore's young writers. Nine writers wrote their original short story to match a given title of an existing book (The Little Prince, The Secret Garden, The Golden Compass, The Magician's Nephew and The Cat in the Hat). Their stories were imaginative, creative and they contained the unexpected events!

### The following are our budding writers:

- Chloe Tan (6A)
- Venkatesh Mahaa (6A)
- Lo Xien Fei (6B)
- Loke Yang Kang (6B)
- Sivamuthu Nihidha Varshni (6B)
- Ammar Dawud Burgess (6C)
- Liu Zilu (5A)
- Le Nguyen Quang Vinh (5A)
- Ruhan Tasneem Shafa (4A)



Liu Zilu of Primary 5A emerged as one of the winners and her story will be published as an eBook of short stories, which is a limited edition print copy. She will be presented with a copy of the limited print edition and a Young Writer's Award Certificate from Civica. Thanks to Zilu, a copy of the published eBook will soon be made available across all participating school libraries, and a copy of the print book will also be presented to all the winners' schools.

*English Language Department*

## Making Connections through Thematic Learning Experiences!

Our Primary 2 pupils were filled with excitement when they were empowered to **choose** one out of three heritage sites to visit for their Learning Journey. As part of Xingnan's X<sup>3</sup> Learning Years journey, our P2 pupils went through a thematic experience - *'Things So Singaporean'*. The theme for Term 3 saw teachers curating learning experiences for Xingnanians at the iconic heritage sites in Singapore – Chinatown, Kampong Glam and Little India.



The Malay Heritage Centre's collection of interactive exhibits allowed pupils to delve into the rich culture of Singapore's Malay Community. Pupils checked out the iconic Masjid Sultan Mosque located at the heart of Kampong Glam, one of Singapore's impressive places of worship.

Stories of people in the past who used to walk the streets of Chinatown enthralled those who visited Chinatown. Pupils learnt about the Singapore's Chinese community through observing cultural practices and inspiring architecture.



Little India – a buzzing historic area that features the best of Singapore's Indian community. Colourful flower garlands, beautiful peacock feathers, oil lamps and traditional costumes enticed the pupils during their trail along Campbell Lane. At the Indian Heritage Centre, our pupils made music with Indian traditional instruments.

The authentic experience helped our P2 pupils connect their learning of various subjects based on a common theme. Pupils made traditional Chinese, Malay and Indian food clay in Art lessons and penned down their reflections during English periods. The artefacts were displayed in a mini Xingnan heritage museum. Our P2 pupils showcased their artefacts and presented their learning experiences to their juniors in P1 and parents during the recent PPTM. A quality learning experience for our P2 to mark the end of Term 3!

P2 Level

## **Coming Together to Carry Out Classroom Values-in-Action (VIA)!**

This term, the Primary 5 Environmental Club members and Environment Champions assisted the lower primary pupils to carry out their classroom cleaning. This was an opportunity for the P5 pupils to enhance their leadership skills as they interacted confidently with their juniors. The Environmental Club members taught the Primary 2 Environmental Champions to tie and stack newspapers neatly. The Primary



5 Environmental Champions taught a group of Primary 1 pupils to stack books and wipe the tables. Buddy cleaning was practised to inculcate positive social norms and cleanliness amongst pupils. The Classroom VIA leveraged peer influence and feedback to shape the behaviour of pupils. It helped to foster shared ownership and responsibility of school spaces.

CCE Department

## **Being Responsible Citizens in our Community!**

Excitement was in the air as our P3 pupils got to spend some time in the afternoon with their classmates, litter-picking in the neighbourhood – all in a bid to care for the environment. Equipped with plastic gloves and tongs, pupils worked hand in hand to pick up the litter in the open spaces around the community. After the session, pupils were tired but satisfied with themselves as they got a first-hand experience in helping to clean their living environment. Callum from 3F expressed that after the litter-picking activity, he felt that he had demonstrated responsibility and that he would be more careful not to litter in the future.

*P3 Level*

## Timely Visit to the Singapore Discovery Centre: Decrypt SG 2018!



A visit to the Singapore Discovery Centre (SDC) was intended to help our P4 pupils recognise Singapore's unique and diverse culture and heritage. They were engaged in learning experiences at the exhibition to identify the different aspects that make Singapore truly unique and our home. The pupils were caught by surprise when they met a special guest at SDC. They

had the honour of interacting with President Halimah Yacob who visited the site! Our pupils had to complete a quest at the National Day exhibition site 'We're SG', which aimed to remind people of values such as multiracialism and inclusiveness.

*P4 Level*



## Celebrating Our Teachers!

"Our teachers inspire us!" quipped one of our junior P4 prefects as they enthusiastically got together to come up with personalised notes for all our teachers. In line with this year's Teachers' Day Celebrations, 'Inspirational Work of Teachers', as crafted by the Primary 6 Prefect Executive Committee (EXCO), it aimed to symbolise the importance of teachers in helping pupils to achieve their dreams.



The Prefect EXCO came up with the plans and details for the celebration concert. According to Prefect EXCO member, Lo Xien Fei from 6B, "Transforming the plans we made into reality requires effort and time. We had to make changes throughout the process of planning."

It started with a special video showcasing the different forms of inspirational work done by teachers in helping to shape pupils' aspirations. It followed with the student leaders from each class presenting personalised tokens of appreciation to their teachers. The Primary 4 prefects performed a song medley consisting some of the teachers' favourite songs. As an added bonus, our very own in-house staff choir, Xingapella, dedicated a song piece to their fellow teachers, adding zest to the already entertaining concert. In addition, prefects set up a photo booth in the library to provide pupils with opportunities to take photos with their teachers.

Overall, the concert was a success and all teachers felt appreciated. According to a Prefect EXCO member, Chua Hui En from 6A, "The teamwork and spirit is incredibly amazing! The Teachers' Day Celebration is successful this year as our efforts were appreciated by our teachers who enjoyed the programme."

*CCE Department*

## **We are Proud to have a President's Scholar 2018!**



Widely regarded as Singapore's most prestigious undergraduate scholarship, the scholarship is awarded by the Public Service Commission(PSC) to pupils who have distinguished themselves beyond excellence in academic pursuits and co-curricular activities. In awarding President's Scholarships, the PSC looks for outstanding young men and women of sound character who exemplify the ethos of the Public Service and dedication to improve the lives of Singaporeans.

Our school is very proud to share that one of five President's Scholars this year is Miss Shi Peng Yi Penny who graduated from Xingnan Primary School in 2011. Penny was the Head Prefect of our school and actively involved in Scouts, excelling in both curricular and co-curricular activities.

Despite her success, Penny remains humble. During the award ceremony at the Istana, she shared with our School Principal about her fond memories of her primary school days. Penny appreciated making friends from diverse backgrounds at Xingnan. She expressed her gratitude to her teachers who have helped to mould her for what she has become today. She believes these opportunities have carved out milestone successes in her life such as attaining the President's Scholar Award 2018.

Indeed, the qualities we have seen in Penny represents the Xingnanian outcomes which we want from our pupils. Not every Xingnanian may end up as a President's Scholar but everyone can aspire to have the qualities and values which Penny has achieved. We hope that through Penny, our pupils will be inspired to give off their best and our staff will continue to curate quality learning experiences for the holistic development of every Xingnanian. We are proud of Penny and we wish her all the very best as she heads to Stanford University to pursue her degree in Urban Studies.

*CCE Department*

## Meaningful Partnerships

### Daddies Partner our School Too!

Thanks to our Parent Support Group (PSG), 50 families of our P3, P4 and P5 pupils participated in the PSG Dads for Life Season 2 event! A good turnout of close to 180 people enjoyed the day of fun and exciting bonding activities for daddies and children. They took part in the herbal garden tour and



prawning activity at D'Kranji Farm Resort. Participants firstly learnt about the benefits of herbs before proceeding with the highlight of the day – prawning. Guided and assisted by their



daddies, many children managed to catch a prawn for the very first time. What mattered most were the healthy interactions between daddies and their children throughout

the event. Many were looking forward for the next Dads for Life event!

*Partnerships Engagement Committee*

### Celebrating with the Community!

“Dream away, take the world by your hand...!” Our P1 pupils danced along, decked in their colourful T-shirts with their tambourines. Our 100 Primary One Tambourine Dancers put up a fantastic performance to start off the night's concert.



Together with our Indian Dancers and some selected P4 pupils, the school sent a team of 200 pupils to join the Nanyang Community Club in its National Day celebrations. For the very first time, the event was carried out in a camp-fire style. Pupils were enthusiastic and high-spirited as they sang along and celebrated the country's 53<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

*CCE Department*

## Working with Parents and Pupils!

After receiving very positive feedback from our parents and pupils, the school organised another session of Parent-Pupil-Teacher Meet (PPTM) on Thursday, 29 August 2018. PPTM is organised to encourage our pupils to present themselves to their parents. It was a platform for parents to know more about their child's school life from the pupils themselves.

In Term 1, the focus was on getting to know the pupils' well-being and the challenges that they had faced in school. In Term 3, parents were engaged in conversations with the teachers on how the school can work together with parents to maximise the learning potential of the child.

CCE Department



### Learning from Others!

As part of our participation in the Singapore International Band Festival, we hosted a fellow participating band, Yucal No. 2 Elementary School, from China. It was a step out of the pupils' comfort zone as they could communicate with each other in Mandarin only. Nonetheless, it was a fun-filled experience as they got to interact, play and perform with one another.

CCA – Brass Band

### Partnering National Library Board!

Just by reading for fifteen minutes, pupils in Xingnan Primary School took part in the National Library Board's (NLB) *Read for Books* initiative - a charity book drive aimed to raise awareness of reading and share the gift of reading with the less privileged. For every ten pupils who read, NLB will donate a book. This meaningful partnership is in collaboration with the National Reading Movement. Let us encourage our pupils to read as the more they read, the more they'll learn!

Media Resource Library Committee

## Learning from the Police Cadets!



“Prrreeeeetttt!” an eagle-eyed Police Cadet blew a whistle telling one of the participants to stop. Twenty P4 pupils took part in the Safety First! - 2018 Shell Traffic Games Competition Preliminary Rounds on 3 August. Participants were given a smartphone that captured their scores to determine the winners. Police cadets on duty would “book” participants for any traffic offence and update the scores in the device. The use of technology in the traffic games has intrigued pupils’ interest and motivation. We hope pupils practise road safety rules reinforced during the games. The results of the preliminary rounds will be announced next month.

*Safety & Security Committee*

## Collaborative Learning Among Educators!

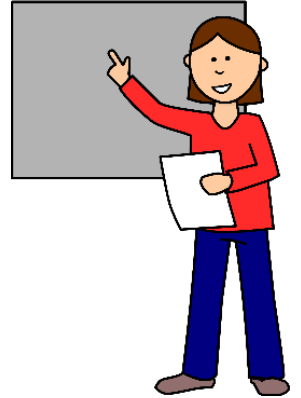
**O**ur school Key Personnel hosted twenty School Leaders and Department Heads from the West 3 Cluster schools on 3 August 2018. The theme of the attachment was Adaptive Leadership. The participants started the day’s programme by observing the morning assembly in the school hall where the National Pledge was recited in Malay Language. It was a unique practice to expose pupils to reciting the National Pledge in the four official languages. The participants were then taken on a school tour to understand the implementation of the school’s customised Modular CCA programme. Following that, Mr Chan, our School Principal, led the participants through a series of engagement activities to identify how features of adaptive leadership were evident in his leadership journey in Xingnan Primary. The feedback provided by the participants were indeed a strong affirmation of what the school is doing to provide a vibrant environment and a holistic education for our pupils.



*School EXCO Team*

## Hosting a School Visit by IPG Kampus Temenggong Ibrahim, Johor Bahru!

Our colleagues overseeing the school's Learning Support Programmes (LSP) had the opportunity to share and interact with 13 staff and 30 trainee teachers from the state of Johore, Malaysia on 27 July 2018. Apart from their visits to the Ministry of Education (MOE) and National Institute of Education (NIE) to understand the implementation of various learning support programmes, our colleagues, Mr Philip Chiu, Mdm Rafizah and Mdm Chow Kar Yin hosted the visitors to provide insights into how our school implements and operationalises the various support programmes to support our pupils' learning. It was a fruitful interaction session where both parties developed a better understanding of the educational support programmes in their respective systems.



*School EXCO Team*