

Lower Primary Sports Day @ECPS

The annual Lower Primary Sports Day at ECPS was held on Thursday, 6 October. It was a delightful highlight for our young athletes from Primary 1 and 2. The participants took on the challenging races in their stride amid a fun environment. While the children were engaged in competition, their parents also turned up to lend support.

It was particularly heart-warming to witness the young competitors support and encourage one another – even during their competition. It was truly a collective display of sportsmanship, camaraderie and teamwork. Applause to them all!

Featured for the first time, the sports event culminated in a parent-and-child race which made it a memorable experience. Everyone, including the teachers, had great fun!



SHAPING LIVES

Racial Harmony Day 2016 – Cele-birth-ation

The school celebrated Racial Harmony Day (RHD) 2016 on Thursday, 21 July. Anchored by the theme “Our Cultural Heritage”, the event focussed on Births (Cele-birth-ation).

During the morning assembly sessions leading up to Racial Harmony Day, our pupils gained insights into the similarities in the creeds and customs. Some of the similarities in practices across the ethnic groups include the post-delivery confinement period and the baby’s first haircut. Our students learned to embrace the shared values.

Display booths providing insights into the unique customs and practices relating to births were set up along the corridor outside the Art Room. These installations covered the symbolism and significance of the practices observed by the different ethnic. Cele-birth-ation certainly heightened our students’ cross-cultural awareness.



STRENGTHENING STAFF CAPACITY

Teacher-led Workshops

Teacher-led Workshop (TLW) is an initiative of the Academy of Singapore Teachers (AST).

The workshops conducted at ECPS have allowed our teachers to lead and engage the teaching community. Using resources and findings from the Lesson Study conducted in 2015, our teachers engaged in professional sharing, collaborative inquiry and knowledge creation.

The sharing of pedagogical knowledge to enhance teaching practices has benefitted our teachers. The fulfilling and meaningful experience was well-received and best summed up by the following reflections about TLW from the teachers:

Love the synergy amongst team members and thankful for the insightful learning experience.

Ms Sally Koh
Senior Teacher/LSP
(Lower Primary)

The TLW gave me the opportunity to learn from the participants about the problems they faced while teaching reading comprehension. I shared as well as picked up effective teaching strategies to overcome this issue.

Mr Fazli
Malay Language Teacher

I enjoyed the diverse perspectives from the group sharing activity. It provided me with useful insights.

Ms Stella Teoh
Senior Teacher/Chinese Language

This year, ECPS is proud to have four of our subject teams selected to lead and share their good practices with other teachers in Singapore.

English Language	Primary 2 EL Teachers	Comprehension Strategies for Lower Primary: Retelling and C.U.B (Circle. Underline. Bracket)
Chinese Language	CL Teachers	Visible Thinking in the Chinese Language Classroom
Malay Language	ML Teachers	Analysing Comprehension Text Through W.P.S Strategy
Tamil Language	TL Teacher	Education Led By Lego

Prologue



This year, the theme for our school is ‘Believe and Make a Difference’.

At the start of the year, I shared a story about how an army of frogs competed to climb a tall tower. Other frogs gathered to cheer the competitors on. However, the tower was so tall that no one in the crowd really believed the tiny frogs would reach the top. Throughout the competition, the crowd shouted comments like “The tower is too high” and “Oh, it is way too difficult”. One by one, the tiny frogs began collapsing. Even when there were some who continued climbing, the crowd told them, ‘It’s too difficult! No one will make it!’ More and more frogs got disillusioned and dropped to the ground.

But one frog refused to give up and continued to climb higher and higher. With a final push, he reached the top and became the only winner. When he came down, all of the other frogs were curious how he managed to find the strength to succeed and could not hear the discouraging voices. He believed he could reach his goal and was focused on doing so.

“Every one of us will be able to make a difference as long as we believe we can. This is in line with the Growth Mindset that the school is seeking to inculcate in our students.

The story illustrates to our students that every one of us will be able to make a difference as long as we believe we can. This is in line with the Growth Mindset that the school is seeking to inculcate in our students. Many of our students have demonstrated a strong belief that they can succeed. Our students have done well both in school and outside, as attested by our list of accolades. Let us continue to believe that every student is special and can be actively engaged in learning.

As professional educators, we will continue to be good role models for our students. And as we believe in the instrumental role parents play in their child’s life, we seek to establish an even stronger partnership with our parents in order to provide the best education for every child.

As part of the ECPS family, let us continue to inspire our young ones to aspire for excellence and achieve their dreams.

Ms Jessie Lim
Principal

A publication of East Coast Primary School

November 2016

Accolades 2016

SYF 2016 Malay Dance	Certificate of Accomplishment
SYF 2016 Chinese Dance	Certificate of Accomplishment
School Green Awards	Lotus Sustained Achievement Award
Green Schools @ South East 2016	Excellence Award
Community in Bloom	Gold Award
National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) 2016	
Silver	Liu Fang (5A)
Bronze	Zhang WeiJia (5A)
Honourable Mention	Lam Yik Ting and Song Jia Le (5A)
Annual Mathlympics 2016	
Bronze	Zhang WeiJia (5A)
Singapore and Asian Schools Math Olympiad 2016	
Silver	Neo Wee Zen (3A)
Singapore Math Kangaroo Contest 2016	
Silver	Neo Wee Zen (3A)
National Chinese Online Writing Competition 2016	
Silver (Singapore)	
Bronze (International)	Wang Ding Yiyi (5H)
7th Inter-Schools Generals Order competition 2016	
Merit	Zhang Jun He, Liu Jing Yi, Lin Shu Wei, Yang Qian Hui, Lu Fang, Wang Ding Yiyi, Zhang Wei Jia, Low Zi Ha, Lam Yik Ting and Foo Hui Min (5A)
Picture Book Creation Competition 2016	
Merit	Lam Yik Ting, Lin Shu Wei, Low Jie Min and Loh Wan Xuan (5A)
E7-Cluster Primary Schools Malay Language Competition (Legendary Skit for Folklore)	
1st	Luth Rayyan (3H), Muhammad Danial Bin Sumitra and Muhd Darwis Inwan Bin Firdaus (3P)
E7-Cluster Primary Schools Malay Language Competition (Product Advertising)	
1st	Merah Husin Bin Shahroramlan (4C), Riesya Qusyairah Binti Rosli (4A), Nur Sheryna Muhammad Yusof (4H)
E7-Cluster Primary Schools Malay Language Competition (Syaire Singing Competition)	
3rd	Hanie Ayumi Binte Sazalie and Muhammad Hassuni Alimnawar (5A), Jahirah Binte Sazali (5M)
TL Cluster Competition 2016 (One Act Play)	
1st	Mustera Nayeema D/O Haji Mohamed (4P)
TL Cluster Competition 2016 (Drama)	
1st	Reshma Farvin D/O Abdul Ravooof (6H), Ananya Vijay Krishnan, Arshad Hassan Raees Ahamed and Umapathy Jeyanth (6A)
Junior Photographers Accreditation Standard	
Novice Award	Liu JingYi, Yang QianHui, Phoebe Foo Hui Min and Jasmine Low Jie Min (5A)
Junior Photographers Accreditation Standard	
Novice Award	O'Donnell Dominick Lee (5A)
East Zone Rope Skipping Championship 2016 (with Merit)	
Senior Boys (2nd), Junior Boys (2nd), Junior Girls (4th)	

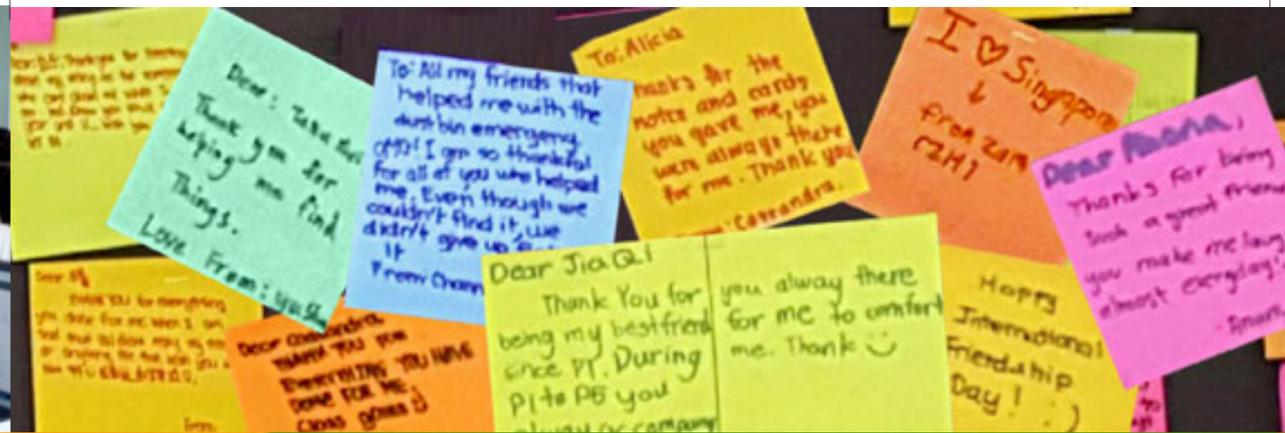
Robotics Programme @ECPS

This year, the school introduced the Robotics programme to cater to the Primary 4 students as an after-school programme. The programme also serves to enhance learning through the application of Mathematics and Scientific concepts where participants learn to code and devise instructions for the robots. The programme was well-received and the students had lots of fun learning through play. Leveraging on the warm reception towards robotics, the school is pleased to announce the inception of Robotics eClub in 2017 so that more students can benefit from this programme.



Hosting Prof Mikihiro Moriyama's visit

On 19 May, the Malay Language Department welcomed Professor Mikihiro Moriyama, Director of Graduate School of International Area Studies, Nanzan University, Japan to our school. Invited by Singapore's Malay Language Centre, he was a Guest Speaker at the annual Arif Budiman Lecture. He was accompanied by the director of Malay Language Centre, Mr Mohd Noh Daipi during the visit. Professor Mikihiro Moriyama was very impressed with the school's programme to ensure that the Malay language and culture are being constantly emphasised during classroom lessons.



SHARPENING MINDS

Aesthetics Programme @ECPS

Music Programme

This year, various music programmes were customised to cater to the different levels. Students in Primary 1 and 2 learned to play musical instruments such as the hand bells and chime bars during music lessons. The Primary 2 and 3 students created music with the Angklung – a traditional Indonesian instrument. The school also has an Angklung Ensemble as an ECCA performance group which participated in the SYF competition and garnered a Certificate of Commendation. Our Primary 4 and 5 students had a richer musical range – they learned to play the Ukelele, created digital music using iPads and made music with the recorder.



Thinking Art @ECPS – Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)

As part of the school's LLP, the upper primary students learnt Digital and Media Art which is made up of a 15-hour series on video production. The students then went on to Recycling Art and created art works depicting the theme *Global Warming*.

Our Primary 6 students embarked on a research project to discover the cause and effects of global warming before making 3D sculptures to depict the causes. Tape art was also introduced to the Primary 6 students for the first time and this new art concept yielded an amazing range of artworks! The Primary 5 students used transparency films and plastic bottles to create flowers and leaves. The Primary 4 students worked on the forms of endangered animals using paper mache, while the Primary 3 level fashioned imaginary trees using newspapers as the main medium. The hands-on experiences allowed our students to visualise their creations in unique ways.



School Library Programme @ECPS – Nurturing a reading culture

Our school library, in support of the National Library Board's (NLB) campaign to get the nation to 'Read more, read widely and read together', facilitated a host of activities.

In January, *Book Buzz* was launched to pique students interest in books through interesting displays and introduction of new titles. Teachers were also roped in to write monthly book reviews.

In February, we commemorated Valentine's Day and launched a *Blind Date* with books. The books were nondescriptly wrapped in brown paper and arranged under three different colour codes that connote beginners to advanced readers. The student had to pick up a book-date and then read it during the weekend. After

reading, they could enter the *Rate your Date* contest. A total of 206 books were snapped up like hot cakes on a single day.

This year, we recruited Junior Reading Ambassadors (JRA) to help us promote the love for books. Serving as JRAs came along with perks such as the opportunity to assist the Library Coordinator with the selection of new books and being the first to loan the new arrivals.

On 29 July, the school introduced the NLB initiated *Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)* programme. Students in all levels were engaged in an hour-long session of silent reading. It was exceedingly quiet that one could literally hear a pin drop.

At first I was a little disappointed when I discovered that my 'date' was "Black Beauty", a book about a horse but after reading some pages, the story became interesting. I began to enjoy reading it.

– reflection from student about the *Blind Date* promotion

It was so peaceful; can we have more of this activity?

– a student's feedback on the DEAR programme



SHAPING LIVES

Introducing Kids Appreciate and Student Voice – Two platforms @ECPS to promote Social Emotional Learning skills

Kids Appreciate provides an avenue for students to articulate their appreciation through written notes for their peers and staff. This year students penned their appreciation notes for the SCDF paramedics as part of Total Defence Day and expressed their thanks to their international friends as part of International Friendship Day as well as to their teachers to celebrate Teacher's Day. The heartfelt expressions helped spread positive emotions around the school and allow the students to learn to appreciate and respect people around them.

Student Voice is a channel that allows students to have a say about what goes on at East Coast Primary School as active participants of the school community. Valuing and incorporating student voice in the school ensures that education is more engaging and relevant to 21st century learners. Besides giving our students a sense of belonging, the platform also encourages pupils to be independent decision makers ready to share their thoughts and opinions boldly. The latter includes the selection of the head prefect and articulating their CCA preferences for 2017.

