

Revitalising our Eco-garden

Our Eco-garden received a facelift this year. The effort by dedicated parent volunteers together with teachers and students saw the vegetable plots in the yard all spruced up. The hedges were painted with colourful and vibrant hues which enhanced the appeal of our garden. Even our little garden visitors such as the bees and butterflies seemed to give the revamp a stamp of approval as they added a buzz with their fluttering presence. To all who contributed to the renewal of the garden for our students to learn and play... thank you!



WHAT'S NEW

Tech-Deck

Our *Technology Deck* is the latest technological-infused series of spaces that is created adjacent to our three computer laboratories. The over-arching objective for the creation of this area is to:

- Provide an experiential learning scaffold for our children to apply theoretical knowledge across different subjects (e.g. Science, Mathematics, and Physical Education) in a practical setting
- Foster in our pupils a Growth Mindset, and a platform for our children to demonstrate perseverance and effort
- Cultivate lifelong learning habits of Self-directed Learning, as well as Collaborative Learning

...with the support of sustainable information and communication technologies (ICT).

The Trinity of Spaces include:

The Learning Space – an outdoor learning area that is Wi-Fi ready. Located near our computer labs and mobile devices (ipads) storage facility to facilitate outdoor lessons and the convenient access to devices when needed.

The surrounding facade of the space features information boards on cyber-wellness and the

evolution of technology. These were prepared by our teachers and incorporate illustrations by our student, Joe Takatsuka (4C).

The Wii® Space – with Wii® – Sport installed in all the three stations. These serve to demonstrate the practical aspects of concepts learnt, namely:

Physical Education: For sport and movement-related concepts as well as understanding the rules and scoring system of different sports.

Mathematics: Teaching of concepts with real-life applications such as determining averages to the sum and the difference.

The Kinetic Space (a.k.a. Light Up Our Dreams) – the interactive station allows students to pedal with their foot or hand-crank dynamo to power up a curtain of LED lights. The activity allows them to experience

the concept of energy conversion. Students are also able to learn about health and physical-related concepts such as aerobic fitness or acquire values such as perseverance and sustaining of effort.



Welcome on board

All of us at ECPS would like to extend a warm welcome to Ms Jessie Lim Chien Chin (*right*), our new Principal with effect from 15 December 2015 and Vice-Principal, Mdm Lim Peck Chin (*far right*) who joined us in June 2015.



STRENGTHENING STAFF CAPACITY

Embracing Lesson Study for professional development since 2004

ECPS began its journey on Lesson Study (LS) in 2004 and has over the years entrenched LS as an integral part of the school's professional development framework.

These are key milestones:

The initial Phase (2004 – 2006)

LS was first introduced in ECPS by an enthusiastic teacher and the then principal. The school was the first school to embark on LS on its own. To deepen the school's understanding of LS, a team led by the principal journeyed to Japan to learn about LS.

Dormant Phase (2007 – 2008)

The period of dormancy was a result of changes in the school leadership.

Revival/Growth Phase (2009 – 2015)

The principal who took over the mantle as Principal in 2009 revived LS. It has evolved and adapted to current educational trends.

- 2009 – Lesson Study was implemented with a whole school approach
- The Lesson Study Symposium was introduced

- 2010 – English Language became the first focus
- A Master Teacher was invited to establish the LS protocol
- Six LS forms were created to guide LS teams

- 2011 – Mathematics was identified as the next focus
- Six Professional Learning Teams were formed and two cycles of LS were facilitated

- 2012 – Staff became more familiarised with the LS protocols
- Conducted in-house as well as cluster sharings
- Sustainability became the focus to enhance LS

- 2013 – LS was transformed into ICT Infuse Lesson Study (iLS)
- Second cycle of iLS was implemented based on specific interest groups
- Research lessons on Habits of Mind, PE, Music and DI were held

- 2014 – Growth Mindset was adopted as the overarching theory to guide iLS
- Teacher Learning Community (TLC) which focused on Formative Assessment was introduced to further enhance iLS and T&L
- 2015 – Growth Mindset continues to be the overarching theory for iLS while TLC continues to enrich iLS and T&L
- Teachers embrace Reflective Practitioner (EMC² and A³) to deepen reflections.
- ECPS also showcased their LS journey at the Redesigning Pedagogy International Conference (*pictured, far left*).



Prologue



“Going forward, I am confident that our students will continue to believe in themselves – to know the good and to do the good. Our teachers will hold fast to their mission to serve and make a difference to the lives of our students. The new leadership team will strive to propel the school to greater heights.”

This year, as we celebrate SG50, we also took the opportunity to celebrate the efforts of the pioneers of ECPS who laid the strong foundation of the school for us to build upon. We were honoured to have them join us during the SG50 celebratory events held in school this year and thanked them for their contributions towards the growth of ECPS.

The spirit of the 2015 school theme, *Learn to Love, Love to Learn* inspired us and gave us strength to lovingly engage our students in their learning. We nurtured a growth mindset and model our love for learning through lesson study to strengthen our classroom skills. As we strive to impart what it means to love self, love others, love the environment and love learning to our students, they reciprocated in their own way by attaining the diversity of achievements in 2015 (*on the right*) that did the school proud.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Ms Jessie Lim Chien Chin who has been appointed as Principal-Designate of ECPS. She will officially takeover as the Principal of the school with effect from 15 December 2015.

I will be taking on the principalship at Bendemeer Primary School and would like to register that it has been my privilege and honour to join the ECPS family in 2009. Over the seven years in East Coast Primary, the wonderful colleagues, happy students, supportive parents and partners have made my time here a joyful and memorable one. Thank you all. I would also like to thank Mdm Lela, who joined us as the school's Vice-Principal in June 2009, for her contribution to the school's growth and development.

During my tenure at ECPS, the school's motto – *Live, Love, Learn and Make a Difference* gave me the vision, the inspiration and the motivation to do my best for the school. The school's CHAMPS values served as my guide when making decisions and actions. The school's culture of CARE gave me warmth and the sense of togetherness – as part of the ECPS family.

The school themes that we embraced over the years have also helped us train our focus in renewing our growth and development.

During our strategic planning session in 2014, I shared with everyone *Our ECPS Journey since 2009* to recap the essence of the school themes over the years:

- *Level Up, Step Out* was our first rally call to level up our self-confidence and to give ECPS our all.
- *Together, We Thrive* was our next call for us to come together as one. This is underpinned by the belief that when we stay united in purpose, many victories shall be achieved.
- We often receive positive feedback that ECPS is a good school; it is indeed Our ECPS, Our Pride.
- *Our ECPS Heartbeat* was a call to celebrate our successes along the way and be encouraged to strive on.
- As we build on our family's Culture of CARE, we are reminded that when we care, we also share, and dare as *Together, We Soar*.
- The call to *Learn to Love, Love to Learn* motivated us to strive relentlessly to realise our mission.

All the best to all in your shared journey ahead... towards the rainbow.

Thank you.

Mr Tan Siew Tiong
Principal (2009 – 2015)

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Accolades 2015

- Singapore Mathematical Olympiad (SAPMOPS) 2015
Bronze – El Shun Lei Mon (6A)
- National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) 2015
Bronze – Kim JiMin (5A)
- National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) 2015
Honourable Mention – Owen Luo Zi Yi, Nang Kai San Hom & Angus Kong (5A)
- ACJC Young Whizzes
Bronze – Kim JiMin (5A)
- E7 – Cluster Primary School Malay Language Competition (P4 Advertisement)
1st – Muhammad Fauzi Bin De Chavez Azman, Muhammad Hassani Almunawar & Nur Haidah Binte Noor Azni (4A)
- E7 – Cluster Primary School Malay Language Competition (Poetry Recital)
1st – Nazwa Nazafa Binte Yousri & Nur Aqasha Binte Abdul Raman (5H), Mohamad Syafeeq Bin Abdullah (5M)
- Cluster Tamil Language Competition (Drama)
1st – Reshma Farvin Din Abdul Raouf (5H), Hangovan Dharhun Karthik & Rajan Ratin (5C), Ananya Vijay Krishnan, Arshad Hassan Raees Ahmed, Asraf Ali Razik Jabbar & Unapathy Jeyanth (5A)
- Cluster Tamil Language Competition (Singing)
2nd – Subramanian Shanmathi (1A)
- Cluster Tamil Language Competition (Pioneer Fancy Dress)
3rd – Govindaraju Abinesh (3A)
- National Primary Games Creation Competition 2015 (Best Game for Scratch)
2nd Runner Up – Phoebe Foo Hui Min (4H), Liu JingYi, Yang QianHui & Beck Low Zi Hon (4A)
- National Photography Festival 2015
Special Mention Award – O'Donnell Dominick Lee, Yang QianHui, Gabriel Ramsey Ranasinghe & Lam Yik Ting (4A)
- National Photography Festival 2015
Individual Award – Yang QianHui (4A)
- SG 50 Entrepreneurs Trail (Primary)
Gold – Nur Sahara Binte Isnin & Tan Jing Rui, Lois (5C), Kang Yan Heng Angus & Nur Liyana Syaza Binte Mhd Firhan (5A)
- East Zone Sepak Takraw Championship 2015
Senior (2nd)
- 4th World Youth Tchoukball Championship 2015
Girls Under-12, Team B (3rd) – Ishiq Nadira Binte Hamzah (6M) & Khadijah Binte Mohd Shukor (6A)
- National Tchoukball competition
Senior Girls (2nd)
- Rope Skipping – East Zone
Individual Speed – Junior Boys (1st & 3rd), Double Under Senior Girl (2nd), Double Dutch Junior Boys (1st), Double Dutch Senior Boys (1st), Double Dutch Senior Girls (3rd), Speed Relay Senior Girls (3rd), Speed Relay Junior Boys (2nd), Individual Creative Junior Boys (1st), Individual Creative Senior Girls (3rd), Pair Creative Senior Girls (2nd)
- Rope Skipping – National
Team Creative – Junior Boys (2nd)
- East Zone Rope Skipping Championship
Junior Boys (1st), Senior Girls (3rd)
- Green Schools@Southeast
Merit Award
- School Green Awards
Lotus Award, 3R Award and 3R Sustained Award

Starwall – Interactive Learning Activities

With the introduction of Problem Based Learning Programme (PBL), the school has incorporated Interactive Learning Activities using the Starwall. The activities are intertwined with games related to topics assigned to the different levels for PBL programme. Some of the key focuses include promoting the greening of Singapore and providing greater awareness about the environmental and water conservation efforts in Singapore. Through the Interactive Learning Activities, the students were truly engaged and their insights in environment issues were enhanced.



Harmony in Our Hands

The school commemorated Racial Harmony Day 2015 on 21 July 2015. The overarching theme was *Harmony in Our Hands* with a focus on *Weddings@ECPS*.

Leading up to Racial Harmony Day, videos showing weddings celebrated by different races in Singapore were screened during morning assembly. Students gained insights into the shared values underpinning the creeds and customs such as the expression of gratitude to the parents of the couple for bringing them up.

Booths showcasing wedding ceremonies outside the Art Room provided information on the unique practices during Chinese, Malay and Indian weddings. Our students came away with a better understanding of the nuances of the rich cultural heritage and symbolism that are kept alive during wedding ceremonies.



Celebrating Aesthetic Week and SG50 with music

We commemorated Aesthetic week as part of SG50 celebrations. Informative bulletin boards and exhibits showcasing “Famous Local Composers”, “Singapore Musicals and Theatres”, “Singapore National Day Parade Songs” and “Music in Singapore Festivals” were researched and prepared by the Primary 5 students. Students also took part in quizzes and learnt more about the local music.

It was indeed a unique and engaging event to promote music learning in ECPS.



SHARPENING MINDS

Visual Arts – Learning for Life Programme



Visual Arts is designated as the school's Learning for Life Programme (LLP) in 2015. With the additional LLP funding, we facilitated a range of customised art programmes that are student-centric, engaging, meaningful, exciting and fun.

We introduced Media Art (Filming) to our upper primary students. It was well-received by the students who were quick to put their newly-acquired video production skills into action.

We also implemented the Recycling Art programme, which extended our students' learning to collecting recyclables each week in the school. Our lower primary students rendered works of art using paper as the medium, while the upper primary students turned recyclable materials into compelling artwork.



SHAPING LIVES

Tchoukball

Tchoukball plays an integral part in championing the school value of CHAMPS. It is a sport that promotes aspiring for excellence and steadfast in effort, as well as embraces a caring spirit, humility in attitude and morally upright in action. The weekly Modular CCA session are held on Wednesday morning for our Primary 4 and 6 students. During the sessions, the coaches guide the students on the rudiments of the game.

Outstanding players from the MCCA module selected by the coaches get to represent the school in the National Competitions as well as have the opportunity to attend training to prepare for the competitions. Our senior boys finished 5th at the East Zone Senior Tchoukball Championships while the girls team finished in a commendable 2nd position at the National Senior Tchoukball Championships.

This year, two of our senior players from the girls' team, Ishiqa Nadira Bte Hamzah and



Siti Khadijah Bte Mohamed Shukor represented Team Singapore in the World Youth Championships 2015 held in Singapore. The team did the country proud by clinching the Silver medal!

The 2015 series of the Junior Tchoukball Championships will be held later in November and we wish our junior players all the best in the coming competition!



Doing our part to conserve the environment



The increasing amount of waste generated in Singapore is putting a strain on the environment and depleting our limited resources. More incineration plants and landfills will have to be built to manage the increasing amount of waste. This is not sustainable in land-scarce Singapore. Everyone of us can do our part in reducing wastage by making lifestyle changes in our everyday routine.

We commemorated Youth for the Environment Day 2015 as part of SG50 on 22 April to challenge our students by *Having a Clean Plate Day!* to reduce waste. The initiative serves to increase awareness of the need to reduce waste, such as food waste in Singapore, and offer actionable ways to do so. Besides reducing food wastage, the event also saw teachers and students participating in the collection of recyclables. The school

was abuzz with with the screening of environmental videos at the canteen, while a photo booth with props relating to the Environment drew much attention from the students.



Children's Day Celebrations

The school celebrated Children's Day on 8 October. The celebrations began with the Lower Primary Sports Day which featured the competitive spirit in the races amidst rapturous applause by the spectators. Recess for all levels was extended to a full hour that day as part of the celebrations.

A carnival was specially set up by teachers and parent volunteers. There were booths that featured Stick-on Tattoos as well as games such as Coin Toss and Ping Pong Bounce. The Pyramid Can Stacks proved to be the most popular as it drew the longest queues. The children were also treated to either popcorn or candy floss – generously

sponsored by our principal, Mr Tan. One of our teachers was dressed as a tiger while Mr Tan was in a superhero costume to offer photo-taking sessions with the students.

After recess, an enthralling concert featuring songs and dance, a mimed performance of “synchronised swimming” and a magic show was presented by the teachers and invited guests. Culminating the day, each student received a customised file imprinted with the school's name as a Children's Day memento.

