

From the Principal

Mr Simon Leese

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We come to the end of another school year. September will see some significant developments for the school, not least progress with our substantial IT upgrade which will be ongoing through Term 1. Immediately obvious will be our new IT Services Centre in the library. When Wi-Fi improvements were mentioned in assembly last week, there was spontaneous applause - which is worthy of more explanation! There have been areas in the school where the

coverage has been weaker, and where high internet traffic has slowed operation - but in general the difficulties we are addressing are where they impact on swift and efficient connection for staff as required for our teaching and learning. Recreational use of our system is a different matter.....

From the start of next term, on-line gaming will be blocked. This reflects concern that a significant minority of our younger students are preoccupied; we have also had questions raised by parents about how to limit game playing at home, including late at night which may impact on performance at school. Equally a concern, is the number of prospective entrants to the school who, when asked at interview how they spend their spare time, offer little other than 'playing games'. Physical inactivity with protracted digital entertainment is something we should be concerned about, as well as the psychological impact. The trend towards games including in-game purchasing of 'add-ons' and advantages, (such as in Fortnite), has been widely discussed in the media and is a market worth the equivalent

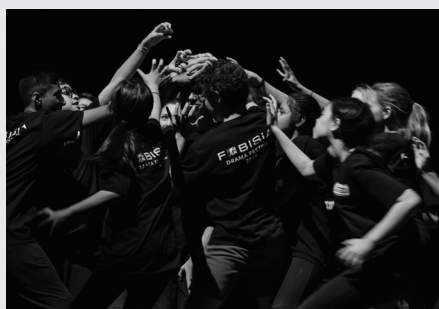
of an extraordinary MYR 10bn a year in 2017 in the UK alone. The global games market was estimated at \$139.4bn in 2018. It can't all be bad, surely?

Of course not, and indeed the industry is a viable and attractive career choice for the future. But POWIIS need not provide and finance a recreational activity through its infrastructure, which is primarily provided for teaching and learning. We see some students unable to see beyond digital engagement for their recreation.

We will also be introducing a 'phones out of sight' policy next term, in line with many other proactive schools around the world. We say forget the charger, and be in charge. Students will be told how this will work next term.

We finish the year looking forward to the biggest school roll in September to date, and of course are excited to see the opening of the Primary School. We celebrated a year of successes at Speech Day on Friday and congratulate once again *(continued on pg2)*

Photo Gallery - From the student produced Yearbook..... a taster!



(From the Principal Cont.) all those who received awards. Details appear elsewhere in this Pulse. What a final week - our lunchtime concert on Tuesday featuring alumni Jane Lim, Verena Koay, and Vince and Gabriel de Leon, with our own Bruce Lu and Rui Chi Oh, was truly a highlight.

I wish all those moving on to the next stage of their education the very best for the future, and those returning, a wonderful break before we all meet again in September. ☺

World Scholar's Cup: Global Round Notifications

Mr Darren Lim Jen Zen

We are two months away from what some of you Scholars may be aware is now a "Not-So-Mini" (which means full-fledged) Asian Global Round in Manila. With more than 1,500 expected participants and countless lasting memories to be made, we hope you are working to your best (and will continue to do so over the holidays) in your revision and skills development.

We will be at Resorts World Manila for one week, from September 5 to 12, and hope to create an immersive cultural and intellectual experience that will be invigorating and eye-opening.

There are some key announcements for Scholars and parents which will be emailed to those taking part. Please give this your urgent attention. ☺

Alumni Concert



Our last TLP of the year (Tuesday Lunchtime Performance) featured four of our former students who returned to entertain us. Gabriel de Leon, Vince de Leon, Verena Koay and Jane Lim provided one of the year's highlights. ☺

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra concert

Mr Victor Kam Soo Teck



Some 40 students and teachers attended the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra concert last week, at Dewan Sri Pinang, Georgetown. The opportunity to hear a professional orchestra of this level is very

rare in Penang. The students certainly appreciated the level of finesse exhibited by the orchestra. Much was gained from just listening to the precision of their playing. ☺

Interhouse Debating Championships

Mr Darren Lim Jen Zen

"For good ideas and true innovation, you need human interaction, conflict, argument and debate" - Margaret Heffernan

To some, debating is merely a civilised "war of words and emotions". However, debating not only brings out confidence in you but also engages you to think and reflect on your learning critically, as well as to form new ideas, some of which may be fundamental in improving our lives.

It is on this note that POWIIS has introduced debating as a new "sport" (albeit a mind sport) that extends competition between our houses into the intellectual arena.

The teams presented some thought-provoking arguments and it is heartening to see some first-time debaters speaking with conviction.

After three hard-fought rounds, the following teams emerged victorious in their respective categories:

JUNIOR - Rutland (Steven Tianhao Xi, Zheng Hau Tan, Daniel Philip Taylor)

SENIOR - Somerset (Megan Chien Thung Lim, Euan Meng Ci Wong, Dylan Shi An Yeo)

In memory of the late Ms. Sylvia Michael, a valuable member of the English as a Second Language department and active Toastmaster, who passed away last May, a trophy for the best junior public speaker was named in her honour.

This year's Sylvia Michael Trophy was awarded to the best debater in the junior interhouse finals: Steven Tianhao Xi

For the senior category, a new trophy was created to recognise outstanding individual public speaking achievement. The first Senior Speaker Award went to: Megan Chien Thung Lim

Congratulations to all participating teams. It is hoped that the competition has inculcated a culture of debating and critical thinking that will elevate our academic achievement as well as develop confident leaders among our POWIIS student community. ☺

Speech Day 2019

Co-curricular Awards

Art:	Crystal Xian Ning Lim Eevan Keoh
Music:	Bryan Liang Qian Lu Joshua Jin Quan Lau
Drama:	Ming Min Teh Jaslyn Yi Ying Chia
Sport:	Sein Ju Chester Shi Quan Yeo

Special Awards

Mr Ahmad Rusli Prize for achievement in Practical Science:

Shu Yi Koay

Sylvia Michael Trophy for Junior Public Speaking:

Steven Tianhao Xi

Senior Public Speaking Award:

Megan Chien Thung Lim

Award for contribution to Boarding Life:

Christophe Xian Da Lim

Overall year group prizes for Academic Attainment and Endeavour:

Year 7 Attainment award: Aston Ming Appleby

Year 7 Endeavour award: Isla Moana Kee

Year 8 Attainment award: Ashley Ting Zhi Tan

Year 8 Endeavour award: Nicole Gerard Suresh
Wayne Xin Lau

Year 9 Attainment award: Jaena Velten

Year 9 Endeavour award: Ao Tahara

Year 10 Attainment award: Samuel James Kee

Year 10 Endeavour award: Yi Xuan Lim
Yixuan Yang

Year 11 Attainment award: Joshua David Shen Velten

Year 11 Endeavour award: Min Shuen Yap

Year 12 Attainment award: Hannah Rose Shu Wei Lee
Nicholas Gerard Suresh

Year 12 Endeavour award: Pei Yee Choo

Year 13 Endeavour award: Sein Ju
Jaslyn Yi Ying Chia

Heads of School Awards: Maxwell Ong Chern-Hoc
Ming Min Teh

The Couzens Award: Ming Min Teh

The Lighthart Trophy: Jaslyn Yi Ying Chia 🏅

ASA Education and University of Exeter: Equality and Fairness - Share Your Views Competition 2019

Mr Darren Lim Jen Zen



This year, together with the University of Exeter in the UK, ASA Overseas Education Specialist have organised a competition under their Career Interest Explorer enrichment programme, "Equality and Fairness – Research and Share Your Views", and received overwhelming responses from students

of many schools from different parts of Malaysia. The participants were privileged to have Professor Greta Bosch, a Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor of the University of Exeter as the assessor for the competition this year.

Two groups from Prince of Wales Island International School consisting of eight students took part. The students had started a research project on their own, on the chosen topic of "Equality and Fairness", and then attended a VIVA session (an examination on research project outcomes) to present their outcomes. Both groups made themselves and the school very proud with their outstanding performances. Professor Bosch was very impressed by the quality of the work and also the academic debate at the VIVA session. One of the groups, "My Last Brain Cell" emerged as the "1st RunnerUp"!

The members of the 1st Runner-Up team are: Drew Wong Meng Shi, Shi Yun Lee, Hannah Rose Shu Wei Lee and Tien Rei Fong

The other team attaining a certificate of participation: Megan Lim Chien Thung, Euan Wong Meng Ci and Nelson Khoo Yi Wei

Well done to both teams! 🏅

Penang Piano Festival and Euroasia Strings Competition

Mr Victor Kam Soo Teck



POWIIS hosted the Penang Piano Festival and the Euroasia Strings Competition over the past weekend. These two competitions brought almost 100 participants from as far as Australia and Singapore to compete in the regional round before the national finals later in the year. Several of our students took advantage of the opportunity and received some credible awards in the various age categories. For the piano division, Yi Chew (Year 7) received a silver in the Age 12 and

below, while Ping Er Loh (Year 7) was awarded silver in the Age 14 and below. Our Year 10s performed admirably with a gold award for Joshua Lau, bronze for Xin Yu Ho and Bernice Ooi in the Age 17 and below. Our sole string competitor on the violin was Ann Hong (Year 7) who also performed brilliantly and received a silver award. Some significant experience was gained over the weekend for some first timers amongst our contestants. ☺



POWIIS Football

Mr Matthew Eccles



POWIIS faced off against Greeners FC last weekend in a U16 fixture at Padang Polo. The team performed exceptionally well in a tough, physical game, playing dynamic and exciting attacking football.

The game was played mostly in the opposition half, with Greeners struggling to cope with the intense high press and though they were dangerous on the counter attack, POWIIS were able to power their way to a fantastic

7-4 victory.

This season has seen a number of players show fantastic development and some great successes across all teams. We hope to see even more interested players come and join us next term. My thanks go out to all the players for their hard work and dedication, to all staff who have supported us in our journey this season and of course to all our fantastic parents for your continued support.

Team: Shou Wu Lim, Kuuru Nelamurthi, Danial Iqbal, Villace Chan, Justin Lau, Mahdi Al-Abaichy, Yusei Ishii, Justin Yang, Afiq Luqman, Jassem Al-Abaichy, Ivan Lim, Aiden Han, Leo Ronot, Rish Pillai (alumni), Akmal Nazim (guest)

Assistant Coach: Max Sommerfeld

Goals: Afiq Luqman (4), Jassem Al-Abaichy (3) ☺

Year 9 Classical Greek Theatre

Mrs April Boyd



In this final term, the year 9 drama students have been introduced to classical Greek Theatre. Ancient Greek Theatre is the basis for most theatrical forms today. The students focused on Sophocles' famous play, Oedipus. This project has utilised a variety of skills and

has focused on building group team working skills, communication, and self-confidence. The Oedipus project has consisted of creating an improvisational task, devising and writing a group script, constructing a group research presentation based on elements from Ancient

Greek, as well as learning the basic elements of Ancient Greek Theatre History. To conclude the year, the students performed their own adaptation of the infamous play where they utilised masks, costume and choral work. 🕒



Entrance assessments are still possible by special arrangement and subject to available spaces. Please mention to friends and contacts who may wish to be included.

Contact Michelle Goh at admissions@powiis.edu.my

Watch for future Pulse editions!