



COMMUNICARE

2018 issue 1 | tanjong katong secondary school



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

To nurture a learning orientation in our students, the curricular and co-curricular programmes provided in TKSS heighten the sensitivity in our students to the disciplinarity of respective subjects and the development of the whole person in and outside the classroom. For example, metacognitive thinking and learning dispositions are supported by Inquiry-based Learning in Science and Humanities, the Learning Study approach in Mathematics and Chinese Language, Learning Capacities for Imagination in Art, Design Thinking for Design & Technology and Assessment for Learning to develop students to be self-directed and to self-regulate their own learning. These life-long learning skills are also applied by students in co-curricular activities and competitions.

The school is also better resourced to complement the provision of care for our students. Working alongside with our teaching staff are our AED (Counselling), AED (Learning Behavioural Support), Education & Career Guidance Officer, Family Matters Co-Ordinator and a full team of administrative support in the General Office.

This year, besides our legacy of value-added academic performance at GCE O-Level examination and good CCA performance, our students brought in a couple of firsts in TKSS history – we are the National Champion for Floorball 'B' Girls, among the top 10 in N.E.mation!, and our athletes attained their best records at the national finals.

I would like to thank all our dedicated staff, supportive parents and partners for making all this possible for our students. The pages of this issue reflect the aspiration and pride of being TKsians.



Mrs Dolly Ong
Principal

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commūnicāre

– (Latin) Verb. 'to share; communicate; unite'

Education is a community effort. Commūnicare fosters a closer relationship between the school and its stakeholders and partners as we work together to nurture our students to their full potential.

Floorball

From the endless drills and countless crunches the girls had to do, to the blood, sweat and tears they put into their training, it was all worth it in the end. For the first time in TK history, the TK floorball team emerged as Champions for the National 'B' Division Inter-School Floorball Championships. The girls' perseverance allowed for an almost full sweep win, with only one tie happening in the season against East View Secondary School. They continued the streak and went against tough opponents in the Finals, Orchid Park Secondary School, and defeated them with a score of 4-2.

The girls have been through thick and thin; from the first step they took together on the court to the final whistle of the referee. Being the team that made TK history is truly an experience and honour that the girls are proud of. Congratulations, TK Floorball!



Athletics

2018 has been a trailblazing year for TK Athletics, with two medals in the bag, and more athletes having qualified for the Semi-Final and Final races compared to previous years. **Goh Jet (2G)** did the school proud by winning a Bronze medal for the 400m race, and a Silver medal for 400m Hurdles. TK Athletics' last medal was won by Faries Dzulmatien in 2014.

Toh Zuan Wen (2G) and **Kelvin Siew (2C)** also did well by qualifying for the 'C' Division Boys' 400m Hurdles Finals and 'C' Division Boys 100m Finals respectively.

For the 'B' Division Boys, **Ng Yuan Zhang Kenneth (3C)** also did well by qualifying for the Semi-Finals for both the 400m and 200m events. Moreover, **Wu Bojin (2E)** and **Siti Nur Amalina (1E)** also did well by qualifying for 400m events. Amalina also qualified for the 200m Semi-Finals.

Our 'C' Division Boys team, **Russell Tay Yu Heng (2D)**, **Goh Jet (2G)**, **Toh Zuan Wen (2G)** and **Kelvin Siew (2C)**, did well and achieved a place among only seven schools to qualify for both 4x100m and 4x400m relay Finals. Moreover, the team was one of only four schools to qualify for a total of three Final events, including 100m Finals. At the end of the competition, the 'C' Division Boys earned a total of 21 points, to be ranked 8th overall. Congratulations, TK Athletics!



Football

Playing in front of an enthusiastic crowd at Our Tampines Hub, the 'C' Division team put on their finest display of the East Zone Inter-school Football Championships to beat their rivals, Victoria School, 2-1. In so doing, TK Football secured the 2nd Runners-up spot. The boys played exciting, flowing football, with **Alvin Wong (1F)** and **Christos Chua (2F)** scoring the goals which clinched the win. They will move on to the National round of the competition which will kick off in Term Three.

As for the 'B' Division team, the senior boys have taken the School Premier League (SPL) 2 by storm, beating all the opponents en route to the Final, which was played on 18 May 2018. After beating St Joseph's Institution 6-2 in the Semi-final, the team saved the best for last by downing Sembawang Secondary School 7-0 at a rain-soaked Our Tampines Hub to be crowned SPL 2 Champions. **Vasileios Chua (4C)** bagged four goals in that match to clinch the Top Scorer Award, with 24 goals in all. It was a fitting end to a hard-fought season for the 'B' boys, who recovered from early setbacks to secure another trophy for TK. Congratulations, Football!



Netball

This year's East-Zone Netball Championships campaign was a bittersweet one for TK Netball. While the 'B' Division team fell short of their top four target and crashed out in the quarter-finals, the 'C' Division team maintained a Top Three placing, finishing 3rd in the East Zone. Then, despite valiant performances in the National Schools Netball Championship rounds, our 'C' Division girls finished just within the Top 8, exiting the tournament at the quarter-final stage. Brave performances all round, girls! Chins up, and work towards next year's tournaments.



NCC Land

On 24 February, TK NCC(Land) cadets took part in the annual Precision Drill Squad (PDS) Competition (East District). The boys had worked tirelessly for this competition, training hard since December till the date of their competition. Their hard work paid off as the PDS team won 1st place, out of about 20 schools that competed in the competition. In addition, they qualified for the National Finals. Congratulations to the PDS team!

The PDS team put on a spectacular performance at the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) 50th Anniversary Celebrations at Sembawang. The boys were thrilled to be given the opportunity to perform in public. They were also honoured to meet our Minister for Education, Mr Ong Ye Kung, after the performance. It was definitely a memorable day for the boys.



NCC Sea

On 10 March, TK NCC(Sea) competed in the 10th NCC Freestyle Drill Competition against schools from the Sea District. The cadets trained hard for the competition and came in 1st. This garnered them a place in the Finals on 17 March, where they competed against other schools from different units.

On the same day, TK NCC(Sea) competed in the 9th NCC Precision Drill competition against schools from the Sea & Air district. The cadets trained hard for the competition and emerged 4th. They were also the only unit from the Sea District to make it to the Finals. Congratulations to both NCC (Sea) FSD and PDS Teams!



NPCC

On 3 March, TK NPCC yet again brought honour to the school in the biennial Inter-Unit Campcraft Competition. Held at the Home Team Academy, cadets had to assemble a shelter, a gadget, and a flagstaff under time constraint, in order to test their campcraft knowledge and skills. After seven months of intensive training where the cadets' grit and teamwork were put to test, the Girls' Team clinched 1st place while the Boys' Team was awarded 6th, among the 150 schools nationwide.

Both teams accomplished the seemingly impossible within a short period of time, especially because a surprise component was added only a month before the competition finals. Unlike the usual green tent pitched during trainings, an unexpected twist to utilise ponchos instead of tent sheets was introduced. Those few weeks truly tested the teams' camaraderie and fortitude, which all paid off as the cadets stepped into the pitch that Saturday morning. Not only did they grow in their knowledge and skills of campcraft, but they developed holistically as well. Congratulations to both teams!



Scouts

Having received the Frank Cooper Sands Gold award for 9 consecutive years, this year marked TK Seladang Scouts' 10th year of achieving Gold, which is a pinnacle moment in TK Seladang Scouts' history. The boys will certainly continue to do their best, and aim to secure another 10 years of Frank Cooper Sands Gold award. Congratulations, Scouts!



TK Band

The TK Band did it once again by clinching a Certificate of Distinction at the biennial Singapore Youth Festival 2018 Arts Presentation for Display Band held on 14 April at the Singapore Indoor Stadium.

After months of intensive practice and rehearsals, all the Band's hard work and effort paid off in an exhilarating performance entitled "An ASEAN Spectacular". Very well received by the audience, it showcased cultural and artistic elements from various ASEAN countries in a flurry of colours and an engaging fusion of distinct musical styles. Congratulations TK Band!



TK CHOIR

The London College of Music, under the University of West London, is a prestigious institution that offers assessment to music learners worldwide. Known as the LCM Examinations, these music assessments are reputable and recognised internationally. This year, our Secondary Two to Four Choir students took part in the LCM examination, and they were highly disciplined and trained rigorously for it. Under the guidance of our conductor, Mr Nelson Kwei, TK Choir attained a high distinction of 95/100 in the London College of Music Grade 5 Examination. Congratulations TK Choir!



AVMC

On 25 February, the AV Media Computer Club (AVMC) scored a historic win for TK as the team came in among the Top Ten positions for the NEMation Competition 12. NEMation is an annual inter-school digital animation competition organised by Nexus, for students from secondary schools, junior colleges and centralised institutes to express their thoughts on Total Defence. This was the first time our school achieved a position among the Top Ten schools. The team participating in this competition was called the Three Animators, and it consisted of **Karis Khoo Jing Xuan (3C)**, **Magdiel Teo (3C)**, **Audrey Loo (3C)** and **Tracia Ong (3C)**. The team entered a short animated video clip entitled 'Total Defenders' to broadcast the message of civil, military and psychological defence. Congratulations AVMC!



CHESS CLUB

During the March holidays, several members of the TK Chess Club participated in the 70th National Individual Chess Competition. After nine intense rounds facing stiff competition from participants from other schools, two of our members, **Jaryl Seah (3A)** and **Soham Khatavkar (2G)**, did the school proud by clinching 6th and 7th place respectively. Congratulations Chess Club!



GCE 'O' LEVEL RESULTS



The 2017 GCE 'O' Level Examination results were released on 12 January. The students performed well and did our school proud, with 17.4% of students obtaining at least seven distinctions and 49.8% of students obtaining at least five distinctions. It was heartening and inspiring to see the Team TK spirit soaring high for both the students and teachers, especially as we celebrated our achievements. The strong support of the parents has also played an important role in enabling our students to believe in their ability to succeed.

40TH INTERNATIONAL C. B. PAUL SCIENCE QUIZ

The International C. B. Paul Science Quiz is organised annually by the Anglo-Chinese Junior College (ACJC) Science and Mathematics Council, in collaboration with Nanyang Technological University and National University of Singapore. It aims to develop students' interest in Pure and Applied Sciences through enhancing their critical thinking skills.

Congratulations to the following students who have done themselves and the school proud: **Chhavi Dhir (4A)** and **Li Haixin (4A)**, who both attained the Gold award. Moreover, **Timothy Agus (4A)** and **Tan Yi An (4F)** received the Silver award. Lastly, Victoria Kan **Pei Lin (4A)**, **Athuf Hasiholan (4A)** and **Bryan Hong Hee Shuen (4A)** attained the Bronze award.



7TH INTERNATIONAL BIOMEDICAL QUIZ

Another annual quiz organised by ACJC Science and Mathematics Council, this competition aims to develop students' aptitude and potential in the biomedical disciplines through independent work and the application of critical thinking skills to solve authentic medical challenges. Congratulations to the following students: **Timothy Agus (4A)**, who was awarded the Gold Medal, and **Li Haixin (4A)**, who attained the Honourable Mention Award.

TK DEBATES

It was an evening of sheer mettle on display on 20 April over at Anglo-Chinese Junior College as more than 50 debaters from many secondary schools participated in the floor debate rounds of the Division II & III Grand Finals of the Singapore Secondary Schools Debate Championships, organised by Julia Gabriel Centre. TK Debate Team **Captain Chhavi Dhir (4A)** clinched the coveted 'Best Floor Speaker' Award for her eloquence and style in the prestigious competition. She also did TK proud by beating more than 100 students to make it to the Top 10 Best Speakers' Rank List where she clinched the 6th spot, demonstrating her belief in the ability to succeed. Well done, Chhavi!



SECONDARY ONE COHORT CAMP

This year's Secondary One Cohort Camp was an enjoyable and exhilarating experience for the students. Not only did it help them to get to know one another better, it also created opportunities for them to bond and forge strong friendships.

On the first day of the camp, they started off by getting to know their trainers. The trainers then tasked students to make paper airplanes and throw them across the school hall. To make a good paper airplane that would soar high, students learnt that it would first take hard work, and then practice, much like what they need to do in real life. Following that, there was a set of team-bonding games. The team bonding games emphasised how important it is to work as a team to achieve success. For example, students were split into two groups and had to direct blindfolded people to Jenga blocks of specific colours. Students enjoyed themselves thoroughly, and got to know their classmates better.

On the second day of the camp, they enthusiastically participated in a Nomadic Race. This race gave classes opportunities to explore the eastern regions of Singapore. It was truly a wonderful experience.



SECONDARY 2 COHORT CAMP

From orienteering, to high elements to myriad team bonding activities, the Secondary Two Cohort Camp was an action-packed 3 days 2 nights that left many students exhausted, but with a great sense of achievement. During the adventure camp, students enthusiastically participated in activities such as the Low Ropes Course, where students not only challenged themselves to conquer the obstacles with confidence and resilience, but also had to rely on their peers for physical and emotional support should they fall. They also had to step out of their comfort zones to try their hand at outdoor cooking and pitching tents, which they later slept in. All in all, the camp was a novel experience for most. It allowed them to develop resilience, strengthen their bonds with their classmates, and have a whale of a time.



SECONDARY 3 COHORT CAMP

This year's Secondary Three Cohort Camp was a very insightful experience for many students. Centred on the theme of Values in Action, each class was given a specific area to focus on, such as 'Disaster Response', 'Water and Sanitation' and 'Children in Crisis'. Students focused on current affairs and explored the problems faced by less fortunate people in developing countries. It was a really eye-opening experience for the students, as it showed them how problematic the world can be for many who are less privileged.

On the first day, students went to visit various locations, such as the Singapore Red Cross Society, around Singapore related to their topics. There, the staff and guides shared their first-hand experiences on different issues and answered questions from the students, giving students a more in-depth understanding of the problems faced by others.

Upon their return to school, the classes brainstormed and put together a presentation where they articulated how they would carry out a specific project next year to raise awareness of the issue assigned to them. The classes came together at the end of the day to share their presentations with one another, thus opening the students' eyes to different issues occurring globally, and how they could play a part in helping those negatively impacted and in need of aid. Overall, the cohort camp not only helped to bring the class closer but also inspired the students to start making a difference to others.



EL WEEK

English Week was held in Term 2. The objectives were to harness, cultivate and display the literary talents of our students via reading, writing and speaking, and to nurture a love and appreciation for English and Literature through activities and literary works as well as enrich the learning experience of English and Literature through the use of authentic texts.

A variety of activities also took place during the English lessons that week. The Secondary One students created a Book Trailer video in which they promoted a book for their peers and teachers. The students were impressive in their creativity and showcased their EL skills in their multimedia productions.

The Secondary Two students stretched their dramatic muscles in a Book Character day presentation. They presented individual speeches in which they dressed up and cosplayed as a book character of their choice. The students were not only entertained by the innovative character designs, they were also intrigued by the wide selection of books and characters that their classmates presented. The Secondary Two students also presented a short adapted dramatic sketch from their English Literature text, Emily of Emerald Hill. The task not only helped them understand the characters they are studying, but also helped them to appreciate dramatic techniques and production.

The Upper Secondary students were engaged in an informative and insightful EL Colloquium, where students in groups analysed and discussed topics, and presented on the topics. Students were able to research in depth, wide-ranging topics of great relevance and interest, and gained valuable insights from sharing with each other in their class presentations.



HUMANITIES WEEK

The Secondary Three students took part in a fun-filled and upbeat Humanities Quiz as part of the Humanities Week which seeks to encourage active participation in Humanities topics, and deepen the students' Humanities content and conceptual knowledge through such activities. There was a high level of positive competition. Students were engaged and were sharing their opinions readily. The teachers were also able to elicit the students' interest and ability in the Humanities subjects.

The Secondary One students attended a talk on 'Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Singapore' conducted by Mr Micheal Ng. This was in line with the Secondary One Historical Investigations Collaborative project which students carried out in Term 2. Mr Ng is a Research Officer at the Archaeology Unit of Nalanda Sriwijaya Centre, in ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute. He has been involved in several archaeological excavations in Singapore, Indonesia, Cambodia and Jordan, and is currently working on processing the artefacts that were excavated from the National Art Gallery and as well as other artefacts excavated from other sites. Mr Ng shared with the students how certain conclusions about Singapore's history were made based on the evidence found, and the processes the team carried out during the archaeological work. The talk also opened up possibilities for students to take part in the 'The Archaeology Programme for Students' (APS) organised by the Nalanda Sriwijaya Centre, ISEAS in the near future.



EMAS

On 9 February, a group of students from Secondary One to Four participated in the E5 Cluster Malay Language and Cultural Fiesta at Broadrick Secondary School.

Secondary One students took part in the Amazing Race, where they had to move in groups from station to station around the school. They completed activities based on the Malay culture, prepared by Wira Budaya, such as Malay traditional games, food-making and craft-making activities.

Secondary Four Higher Malay students, on the other hand, represented the school in the Narrative Essay Writing Competition where they were given an impromptu topic to write on. With dictionaries at hand and minutes and seconds ticking by, they wrote their essays furiously, determined to do well.

Secondary Two and Three students took part in the “Cepat Tepat” Competition where each school was represented by ‘all boys’ and ‘all girls’ teams. At the end of the day, it was all about having the fastest fingers to select the correct answer and maintaining one’s composure as questions on Malay proverbs and the Malay culture were being asked. It was a very tough fight among competitors from the various schools, as students had to unravel the jumbled words and answer questions on a myriad of topics, such as traditional Malay musical instruments.

The competition ultimately came to an end with TK emerging victorious, clinching 1st placing out of the five schools that participated. Students received their prizes from Broadrick Secondary School’s Vice-Principal, Mdm Sutinah Taib. From this experience, students learned a lot about the beauty of the Malay language and culture as well as facts about their traditional food and games. It was truly a meaningful and memorable experience for all of them.



MOTHER TONGUE WEEK

For Chinese Language and Higher Chinese Language students, Secondary One to Three students learnt about the history of terracotta soldiers, and had the opportunity to carve out a miniature replica. During the session, students had the opportunity to learn about the Qin Dynasty, Emperor Qin Shi Huang, and the reasons for building the terracotta soldiers. Secondary Four students had the chance to enjoy the performance by singers from OB Forest Music. The activities helped students better understand the Chinese language and culture, and inspired them to use their Mother Tongue more in their daily lives.

Secondary One Malay students were given the opportunity to taste delicious Malay traditional *kueh* and create an information board on a selected *kueh*. Secondary Two Malay students participated in Dikir Barat sessions conducted by the famous and entertaining Sri Warisan. In addition, Secondary Four students partook in the Malay traditional feast of “Nasi Ambeng”, where they sampled different dishes with distinct flavours.

Furthermore, Secondary Three students learnt more about Malay couture, also known as high-end fashion, through “Project Runway”, which focused on Malay traditional clothes. A golden opportunity to showcase their artistic skills, the students were tasked to incorporate modern touches in their designs. This year’s theme was “Kain Songket”, where students used patterns for *kain bercorak bunga tabur*, which is a common design for the Malay *songket*. It was indeed a wonderful experience which motivated the students to better appreciate the Malay language and culture.



STAFF INDUCTION@TK

TK welcomed a big group of colleagues to our TK family! Upon completion of their induction programme, the new colleagues interacted with the school leaders over a welcome lunch.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT@TK

TK embarked on a three-year journey to deepen our understanding and application of the principles of the Singapore Teaching Practice (STP). At the school level, the senior teachers facilitated a rich discussion on the importance of reflective practice, and how teachers make use of their bi-weekly reflections to positively impact Teaching and Learning.



CLUSTER SHARING

In support of Cluster Schools' STP journey, Mrs Ong guided the cluster School Staff Developers who organised two workshops for school leaders and key personnel. For Workshop One on 'Teacher Beliefs', it was refreshing to hear from both an industry expert and an academic. The sharing ended off with schools' ideation and application of the insights they had gained. Assessment and feedback was the focus in Workshop Two. After the workshop, the attendees were inspired to apply their learning on effective feedback, and provide more support to teachers so that they can continue to hone their craft in this area.



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

TK held its Chinese New Year celebrations on 15 February. Prior to the celebration, TK staff and students had wrapped many CNY hampers for the senior citizens in Kampong Arang area. This is our way of showing care and concern to the senior citizens during the festive season. We started the day of celebration with our annual mass *lo hei* event in the assembly plaza for a morning of auspicious and joyous tossing of *yu sheng*. Our School Advisory Committee members, Parent Support Group, as well as senior citizens from the St Hilda's Community Services joined us as well. The day ended with the Chinese New Year concert, where we witnessed the engaging performances by our EMAS students, the band quintet as well as the senior citizens who performed two joyful songs for the school. To impart more knowledge about Chinese New Year, a group of students put on a performance about "Spring Transportation", which depicted those who work and study in cities, in other parts of the world, travelling back to their hometowns for Chinese New Year.

On 28 February, TK hosted a Chinese New Year lunch at the Grand Mercure Hotel, in partnership with St Hilda's Community Services. This is an extension of our community involvement with our partner. This year, we were honoured to have President Halimah Yacob as our Guest-of-Honour at the lunch.



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

This year's International Friendship Day (IFD) was celebrated over a period of one week, with several programmes to bring about a better understanding of our neighbouring countries in students. During the week, the spirit of IFD came alive through the assembly programme, vibrant posters and ongoing fringe activities.

The highlight of the week was the recess programme anchored by our ever-supportive Parent Support Group (PSG). The canteen was buzzing with excitement as our students engaged in the many exciting activities planned by the PSG members. Several parent volunteers brought artefacts and traditional costumes to liven up the mood. The Secondary Four National Education Principal's Honours List students also contributed when they set up an information board on the different ASEAN members. The atmosphere in the canteen was invigorated with lively music from the various ASEAN countries during the programme.

Students also showed their enthusiasm by participating in mini quizzes and an Instagram photo competition, #tkssifd2018. Many walked away with exciting prizes and vouchers from Starbucks, Popular and McDonalds, courtesy of our generous parents. It was indeed a memorable event for students, teachers and parents alike.

Thank you, TK PSG and parents!



HOSTING VISITORS FROM KASETSART UNIVERSITY LABORATORY SCHOOL

TK hosted a group of visitors from Kasetsart University Laboratory School, Bangkok, Thailand, from 3 to 6 April.

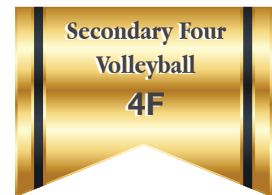
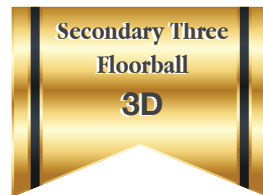
The group comprised one teacher and 10 students from the school. To help the visitors better understand the history, culture and beautiful landscape of Singapore, the Secondary Two Girl Guides accompanied them to various places of interests such as Chinatown, Gardens By the Bay as well as Singapore's financial and business district.



GAMES CARNIVAL

The 2018 TK Games Carnival was the embodiment of the school's motto: *Diligentia, Ingenium, Dexteritas*. Minutes shy of the official start of the activities, the skies opened up. While students scrambled for shelter, the organisers were well prepared with alternative venues for activities. In the end, only the Rugby Clinic by the Singapore Rugby Union was cancelled; all other activities went on as planned, albeit in much smaller areas and in a modified format. In spite of the rain, the students' spirits were not dampened and they persevered, determined to have a good time.

For this year's Inter-Class Games (ICG), the Secondary One students played 4-on-4 Basketball, the Secondary Two students showed their skills in a very disciplined and controlled Softball tournament in the School Hall, while the Indoor Sports Hall was shared between the Secondary Three students playing Floorball, and the Secondary Four students competing in Volleyball. Elsewhere, students took part in Archery Tag, Boccia, Dance Aerobics, Muay Thai and Inline Skating. Despite the wet weather, the Parent Support Group was still able to run a pretty brisk business selling ice-pops.



Congratulations to all!

