

Montage



Highlights

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Honours Day 2017

On 5 August 2017, the River Valley High School auditorium was filled to capacity as school leaders, invited guests, teachers, students, alumni and parents gathered to celebrate the achievements of the RV family.

There was much to celebrate as the numerous awards and accolades won by the students past and present attest to the dedication and diligence on the part of the teachers and the students. The wide array of competitions in which the students participated and won top tier prizes was a testament to the cultivation of the various talents in the school community.

In her speech, Mrs Teo Khin Hiang, Principal of River Valley High School, spoke at length about the responsibility of RV students to use their leadership and talent to serve their community and also the

nation. She reminded the audience that RV students are well-poised to do so because they have a legacy to draw upon - support from the Integrated Programme alumni and the RV alumni from years past.

This sentiment is also echoed in the Guest-Of-Honour's speech. Ms Ng Peck Hoon, Treasurer of RV's School Advisory Committee, outlined the challenges that await the student audience in the 21st century. In a world where skills like collaboration and critical thinking are essential, Ms Ng exhorted the students to make the best use of their time in RV to cultivate the necessary 21st century competencies in order to become future leaders empowered with values and character, to be the pillars of Singapore.

Honours Day 2017 Organising Committee

Presenting our students' artwork to the Guest-of-Honour



Congratulations to the RV Student of the Year 2016, Quah Yan Hsien

Chinese dance by the RV Dance Society



We are delighted that our Guest-of-Honour, Ms Ng Peck Hoon, graced us with her presence



No celebration is complete without the school song



The Percussion Band impressed us with their technical finesse!

The Design & Technology (D&T) Awards are given out annually to students for their good design work. The award aims to encourage D&T students to engage in thoughtful design thinking process to derive meaningful design solutions. This event is organised by the Ministry Of Education, National Institute of Education, and Design & Technology Educators Society, and supported by the Science Centre Singapore. This year, RVHS received two awards for creative adaptation. One was for a project entitled "Circular Traveller", and another was for a project entitled "The Loner".

Through our journey, we were able to learn how a product or game could be created from scratch. The making of the game required us to look from different perspectives to modify the game design to make it attractive, appealing and fun to all age groups. This helped in developing our creativity.

From this experience, we gained many new skills; for example, being rejected taught us resilience. Eventually seeing our persistence and determination pay off at the end was extremely rewarding. We also learnt how to be more flexible with our ideas to meet the task at hand. These are all lifelong skills that will benefit us in future. We are deeply appreciative for this opportunity to participate in the D&T Awards and hope to participate in similar events in the future.

Tan Jia Yi (2D) and Tan Jia Ying, Chloe (2D)

Design & Technology Awards 2017



Jia Yi and Chloe demonstrating to the visitors how to play the "Circular Traveller"



Riko demonstrating the use of "The Loner"

Tan Kah Kee Young Inventors' Award 2017



Jiarui (4C) and Chunjie (4B) presenting their invention to Prof Su Guaning (President Emeritus - Nanyang Technological University)



Congratulations on receiving the Young Inventors' Award! The school is proud of you!

The Tan Kah Kee Young Inventors' Award was launched in 1986. The idea of setting up such an award was first mooted by the Foundation's advisor and mentor, Nobel Laureate in Physics Professor Yang Cheng Ning. The Award aims to get young people to think creatively and contribute to our creative industry in the future. It is an annual activity jointly organised by the Tan Kah Kee Foundation, the Agency for Science, Technology and Research and the Defence Science and Technology Agency with the support of Science Centre Singapore.

We received 2 awards. The first, the "School Award", was awarded to the school for having the most number of quality entries shortlisted for an interview. We were awarded the first prize for the 13th time since 2001, a testament to the hard work of RVHS students. The second was a merit award, given to a group of students for their project, "The Buttoned Zipper Pull". The group of Year 4 students, comprising Zhang Chunjie, Chen Jiarui and Fan Kerong, designed a creative looking zipper that caught the attention of the esteemed judges.

Reflecting on the design process, the students said that one of the most challenging tasks was brainstorming for a good idea. Since they needed to design a product to solve a real-life problem, they had to first identify problems to solve. Through this process, they learnt that sometimes the simplest solutions are also the most extraordinary ideas. Thus, it is important to be adept in thinking out of the box. Another challenge was to identify a clear goal and a specific target group for their invention. This required them to think through their plans carefully, but it was fulfilling to be able to come up with something that worked.

Zhang Chunjie (4B)

#startathon Junior



Students take on the roles of coders, dealers, makers, designers and empathisers at #startathon Junior



The champion team testing out their visual aid for the hearing impaired



#startathon Junior is an innovation experience designed for budding dealers, makers, coders, designers and empathisers to ideate, prototype and validate their business ideas. It aims to encourage students to have an “entrepreneurial dare” – the courage to push boundaries, the desire to innovate and find a breakthrough, and create value for the society.

This national competition jointly organised by ideasinc, the NTU Nanyang Technopreneurship Centre and our Science Leaders Academy, as well as supported by GSK Singapore and the Economic Development Board, is into its second year with 32 participating teams from 13 schools, including two from East Malaysia. Teams were tasked to generate an idea based on the theme “Smart Nation” and create a prototype using app software, electronic microcontrollers and materials such as cardboards or artefacts designed using 3D printers over a course of 24 hours on 28 and 29 July 2017.

Our CID 4+ Science team comprising Loh Teck Weng (4D), Cai Jun Jie, Jordan Ang, Ng Hong Xuan and Andy Chan Yan Meng (4G) created a mobile hand-held visual aid for the elderly and hearing impaired. Upon detecting and recognising sounds from the environment, the device would vibrate and inform the user through a text display. The impressive practical application of this device wowed the panel of judges which consisted of academics and entrepreneurs, and has earned the team the coveted Championship title! Another two RV teams also won the Commendation Award and the Most Impressive Sales Pitch Award.

Daven Lim Guan Mao (5B) and Xie Yuxuan (5H)

Singapore International Science Challenge



Daven Lim (5B), Xie Yuxuan (5H) and Yang Hui (5A) were winners of the Singapore International Science Challenge



The Singapore International Science Challenge (SISC) is a biennial event which brings science students from around the world to compete, collaborate and innovate in science, through three tasks namely, the Research Challenge, the Machine Learning Challenge and the Design and Build Challenge. The theme for this year is Connecting Minds: Discovering New Frontiers, which emphasises the creative use of technology to create a smart planet.

Through the plenary sessions on Design Thinking and Virtual and Augmented Realities, we were inspired to seek new scientific discoveries. In addition, we learnt coding, basic programming, machine learning and entrepreneurial skills which were useful as we applied scientific and technical knowledge to generate solutions to global problems over the five-day event from 27 June to 1 July 2017. SISC also allowed us to work with delegates from 24 esteemed schools from ten countries including Russia, Australia and the United Kingdom. Even after the SISC, the American team invited us to collaborate with them on a project on the visualisation of four-dimensional objects in a three-dimensional space!

Finally, we are proud to have achieved the following in the SISC and we are thankful to have been given this opportunity to learn from fellow young scientists.

Best Institution Award: River Valley High School

Best Young Scientist Award: Xie Yuxuan

Research Challenge:

- Design & Engineering Category: 1st Runner-Up – Xie Yuxuan
- Computing, Mathematics, Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence Category: 1st Runner-Up – Daven Lim

Machine Learning Challenge:

- Grand Champion – Xie Yuxuan
- Best Classifier Award – Xie Yuxuan
- Best Scrutability Award – Daven Lim

Design & Build Challenge:

- Most Innovative Design Award – Yang Hui
- Most Marketable Product Award – Xie Yuxuan

Yang Hui (5A), Daven Lim Guan Mao (5B) & Xie Yu Xuan (5H)



Winning teams at the Singapore Science & Engineering Fair Awards Ceremony

2017 Singapore Science & Engineering Fair (SSEF) Award Presentation Ceremony

The Singapore Science and Engineering Fair (SSEF), jointly organised by MOE, the Science Centre Singapore and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), is widely lauded as the most prestigious national science competition. This year is SSEF's 17th cycle and it saw a record number of 640 submitted entries from more than 1100 students. About 320 projects were shortlisted for final judging on 9 and 10 March, and out of these, 22 entries were from RVHS.

Our teams achieved one Gold, one Silver, two Bronze and three Merit Awards, as well as three special awards at the SSEF Awards Presentation Ceremony held on 28 April. Two students were further shortlisted for the interviews for Talent Search by the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR).



Ng Kwok Wing, Zhu Ke Ying (5B) and Zeng Xinyi (6D) received a Silver Award from Associate Professor Lim Tit Meng, Executive Director of Science Centre Singapore

Kathy Liu Xingyu (5B), Li Yixin (5C) and Tian Xingjian (5F) earned a Special Award at the SSEF

Tiong Ung Sing, Tricia Chan Tze Cheng (6A) and Ng Xin Ni (6D) won a Merit Award at the SSEF



Chow Kit Mun (5D)	Gold Award
Zhu Ke Ying (6B) Ng Kwok Wing (6B)* Zeng Xinyi (6D)	Silver Award (Team)
Jia Shengzhi (6F)	Bronze Award & Special Award by the Singapore Association for the Advancement of Science
Lin Yikun (6E)*	Bronze Award
Lim Yuhua (6D)	Merit Award
Tiong Ung Sing (6A) Tricia Chan Tze Cheng (6A) Ng Xin Ni (6D)	Merit Award
Alyna Khoo Yi Jie (6G) Zhang Yixing (6J) Lincoln Too Xin Da (6M) [From Mathematics Leaders Academy]	Merit Award
Yu Jiaming (6K)	Special Award by the Institution of Engineers Singapore
Kathy Liu Xingyu (5B) Li Yixin (5C) Tian Xingjian (5F)	Special Award by the Singapore Association for the Advancement of Science (Team)

* A*STAR Talent Search candidates

Congratulations to all winners of the SSEF!

Chow Kit Mun (6D)



The three semi-finalist teams at the National Science Challenge

National Science Challenge

and building a DIY coin sorter. We encountered many problems as our prototype kept failing to work. However, we quickly learnt from the mistakes, troubleshoot and fine-tuned our design. With scarce knowledge of the Physics behind sorting mechanisms, we went for simplicity and efficiency of design, resulting in a non-conventional prototype. Fortunately, the device worked properly in differentiating coins of different sizes most of the time during the televised round.

Although we did not qualify for the Grand Finals, the NSC journey was enriching and enjoyable. It also allowed us to apply our scientific knowledge to solve problems and showed us the marvels of Science.

Ng Simin (3D)



Leow Shuen Ling and Ng Simin (3D) explaining how the QR code works



The National Science Challenge (NSC) is organised by Science Centre Singapore and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), and it is commissioned by Mediacorp Pte Ltd. This hour-long game show broadcast on Channel 5 offers both outdoor and indoor science challenges in a bid to promote science education and foster creativity. This inter-school competition is into its 14th year and it saw 168 students representing 42 schools.

Our group comprising Ng Simin, Leow Shuen Ling (3D), Cheng Wenqi and Lim Min Kang (3K) braved our way through a series of exciting tasks from the preliminary round to the semi-finals where we were one of the nine teams! To tackle these challenges strategically, we divided our roles based on our strengths in dramatisation, hands-on competency and the ability to analyse data. The task given during the Semi-Finals was about designing



A group photo with the winners of the TESLA Symposium

The Eco-Sustainability Leadership Academy (TESLA) Symposium

On 5 May 2017, River Valley High School participated in the inaugural TESLA Symposium held at CleanTech Park. A total of 80 students from various schools, such as the National University of Singapore (NUS) High School of Mathematics and Science and Millennia Institute, participated in the research symposium. Additionally, the team of RVHS students who attained a Gold Award at the 'Water is Life' International Conference 2016 was invited to present at this event.

During the event, participants learnt about eco-sustainability research through presentations from award-winning teams. The keynote address by the Guest-of-Honour, Dr Tricia Seow from the National Institute of Education, also inspired the participants to recognise the importance of innovation in order to lead effectively in our constantly changing world.

The highlight of the symposium was when the participants had the opportunity to share their research findings with researchers from CleanTech Park, the National Institute of Education and National Parks Board. This sharing provided participants with a platform to network and exchange research ideas with like-minded peers, broadening their knowledge of the different research fields related to eco-sustainability.

All in all, the TESLA Symposium inspired us to aspire to be future leaders with the commitment to drive positive change in the field of eco-sustainability.

Cheryl Koh Shi Hua (5H) and Lim Yang Zhi (5I)

TESLA is supported by ExxonMobil - EDB NRD Fund

EDB Singapore

ExxonMobil

Mrs Teo with the group of student presenters who attained the Gold Award at the "Water is Life" International Conference

Students presenting their research project to Prof Diganta from the National Institute of Education

WZCOE Junior Science Whiz Challenge

130 students from 22 zonal primary schools participated in the Junior Science Whiz Challenge (JSWC) 2017, organised by the West Zone Centre of Excellence for Science and Technology @ RVHS and the RVHS Science Leaders Academy (SLA). This year's theme, "Earth and Beyond", put a futuristic spin to the annual science challenge. The aim was to establish the interconnected relationship between Earth and space, and highlight exciting new possibilities about life beyond Earth.

At the start of the event, contestants put their scientific knowledge to the test in the Written Round, with test questions designed by SLA members. The next round, a hands-on Practical Round, was designed to test contestants' critical and creative thinking skills. Thus, contestants explored the best way to create a miniature car. The highlight of the event was certainly the thrilling Stage Round, where the top 4 teams competed in a quiz, designed to simulate a game show. It was heartening to see the contestants engrossed in their "galactic" journey as "Guardians of the Earth" and "Adventurers of the Galaxy", with the victors emerging as "Residents of the New Universe" at the end of the event.

Undoubtedly, JSWC 2017 was enriching for participants, supporters and SLA members alike. Beyond applying their scientific knowledge, SLA members were also able to hone their creative and inventive thinking competencies when designing the tasks for the event and setting the quiz questions for contestants. By organising this event, SLA members also gained valuable leadership skills such as self-management and responsible decision-making.

Loh Wei Shi Cassandra (5C), Lim Yuhua (6D) and Chia Guole Eugene (6N)



Students enthusiastically participated in the quiz after learning about the "Wonders of the Sky"



Contestants put their creative thinking to the test as they design and build their car prototypes in the Practical Round

The Future Problem Solving Program (FPSP) International Conference encourages problem solving by pushing participants to devise creative solutions to tackle global issues. Held in the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, USA, this year, I was given the opportunity to participate in the senior division of the Onsite Scenario Writing Competition after clinching first position in the 2016 Singapore FPSP.

In this competition, I cooperated with two other American finalists and collectively crafted a story within two hours and thirty minutes, relating to this year's theme of Biosecurity. We managed to clinch the third position in the Senior Division – a feat which I am proud to accomplish.

This competition was a great experience as I had to collaborate with others, consider the intricacies of creative writing and ensure that the story stays coherent despite the various writing styles. The FPSPIC was an enriching experience that has motivated me to continue my creative writing pursuits.

Lim Yi Jun (5Q)

Future Problem Solving Program International Conference



Yi Jun came in third (Senior Division) in the FPSP International Conference

Singapore International 3D Printing Competition



Winners of the Singapore International 3D Printing Competition

In April, Fan Kerong (4E) and I participated in the Singapore International 3D Printing Competition organised by the Singapore Centre for 3D Printing at the Nanyang Technological University. We were encouraged to design creative and functional items which bring out the marvels of 3D printing technology. Our 3D product which was a hat, won us the top prize of \$5000 in the student category.

3D Printing allows the creation of three dimensional solid objects from a digital file. Undoubtedly, it possesses great potential on the manufacturing front and it is crucial for Singapore to capitalise on her current strengths to develop in this area in order to maintain a competitive edge in the manufacturing industry.

Through this competition, we understood the importance of 3D printing technology in the manufacturing industry as well as its huge potential in the future. As design plays a huge role in 3D printing, we have also been inspired to hone our design skills. We are grateful to the school and our teachers for the opportunity to participate in this competition, as well as all the help we have received along the way.

Chen Jiarui (4C)

The ST-MOE National Current Affairs Quiz



The Straits Times-Ministry of Education National Current Affairs Quiz is an annual inter-Junior College competition that seeks to promote an understanding of local and global issues. Our team comprising Wang Weiyu (6S), Ryan How (6J), Lu Yi Xin (5R), Clarissa Lee (5M) and Priscilla Tan (5M), participated in the quiz round held at Nanyang JC (NYJC) and took second place.

Despite our best efforts, we narrowly missed out on the top prize after losing the tie-breaker. We did well at first, triggering the only tiebreaker of the six quiz rounds. Both NYJC and our team got the first tie-breaker question correct, but our team faltered at the second question, which ended the competition for us. Through this experience, we realised the importance of finding out more about the world around us. The weekly primers and the campus talks have no doubt expanded the keyhole through which we view the world. We are thankful to the school for the opportunity to participate in this competition and to our teachers and peers for their support. We will continue striving to be better critical thinkers in this increasingly complex world and represent the school well in all we do.

Ryan How (6J)

Insights From Art + Social Impact Designers

In July 2017, two of the Art Club members, Cheow Jiong Ling (6C) and Soong Jack Khai (3M), submitted their artwork to Social Space Magazine on the topic of Art + Social Impact and their designs were featured in the magazine.

The students were interviewed on their personal experiences in exploring prevalent social issues. When asked what would be one positive change she would like to make, Jiong Ling shared that she would encourage people to be empathetic as many problems stem from a lack of understanding. If people look at issues from multiple perspectives and listen to others' opinions instead of dismissing them so quickly, the world would be a better place to live in. For Jack, he hopes that people will not get too fixated on the unpleasant things in life and instead, find a way to surmount adversities and move forward.

Bearing in mind that art mirrors life, Jiong Ling drew inspiration from her observations of the people around her and focused her artwork on local narratives. For Jack Khai, the concept of his artwork was guided by the saying "Man should build bridges rather than walls" as he strongly believes in the importance of building connections with others to foster a deeper understanding within our global community. This is important especially when terrorism and social divisions threaten our unity, and we are at the mercy of those who use technology to connect or divide us.

Both students are thankful to have the opportunity to express their views through their artwork and they hope that they will continue to raise public awareness of social issues in their works.

This article was originally published by Social Space Magazine on 29 July 2017. It is reproduced in RVHS' school publication with the permission of the Lien Centre for Social Innovation. Read the full interview here: <https://socialspacemag.org/insights-from-art-social-impact-designers>.



Cheow Jiong Ling (6C) with her design



Soong Jack Khai (3M) with his design



Ocean Conservation Art Competition

The Ocean Conservation Art Competition is a nationwide competition organised by Resorts World Sentosa & Woodgrove Secondary School. This year was the inaugural edition and I am honoured to be shortlisted in the top six and eventually winning a Merit Award.

The theme of this competition was "The cycle of plastic pollution", so the art pieces had to reflect this theme. When brainstorming, I found it difficult initially to find a creative way to represent this theme. While there were many ideas that came to mind, I rejected them as I felt they were too clichéd. Eventually, an idea hit home – food. Humans and the sea are closely connected through food. We "feed" the waves with plastic which then goes into our stomach when we consume seafood.

After much hard work, I managed to create my final piece just in time. When I received the news that I was one of the top six selected, I was shocked but extremely excited. I was greatly encouraged by the award as I was placed in the same league as the other outstanding award recipients.

I am very grateful for the chance to participate in the competition and the guidance I have received. I have learnt more about art through this experience and I look forward to joining more competitions and bringing glory to the school.

Lam Cui Xi (2H)



Cui Xi with her artwork

Our Scouting Journey

Teaching the primary school students First Aid



Going strong in the Exploration Hike Test which lasted for two days



The Girl Guides who received the President's Guides Award and the Baden-Powell Award



The Baden-Powell Award

In 2017, RV Girl Guides was honoured to be awarded the Baden-Powell Award for the sixth time.

The Baden-Powell Award (BPA) is an award given in recognition of a Girl Guide's leadership potential and proficiency in planning. It is the highest badge awarded by the Chief Commissioner of Girl Guides, Singapore.

In order to qualify for the award, we had to take a BPA Test. It was an enriching experience as it challenged us to plan and execute meaningful activities for our participants using the skills we learnt in RV Girl Guides. In the planning stage, we had to make use of our critical thinking skills to plan feasible yet creative activities. In the execution stage, our ability to carry out our plan with confidence was put to the test. Being able to successfully clear both stages was a difficult process, and we learnt how to better manage ourselves and our time along the way. This success was only possible with the help of Guiders and seniors, for which we are immensely grateful.

Cheryl Koh Shi Hua (5H), Chow Yun Hui Dilys (5I) and Zhang Linli (5D)

Throughout our scouting journey, we learnt many skills and values which were put to a test as we set out to attain the Chief Commissioner Award. It was certainly challenging as we had to show that we are competent in various tasks.

One of the tasks was to lead the urban hikes. Some lasted two days as we had to cover a distance of 45 km, and we employed our orienteering skills to lead our juniors. We also had to plan and hold campfires and camps outside of school. We led the programme, security and fire pit committees when we organised a major event which was the West Area Campfire. With minimal help from the scouts leaders, we had to plan and execute the event which was attended by 500 scouts. Although we encountered some teething problems, we managed to overcome them and along the way, acquire more experience and skills.

These opportunities have also allowed us to create many memorable moments and forge precious friendships with people from other schools and countries. Our journey can best be summed up with these two scouts' laws – "A Scout has courage in all difficulties" and "A Scout makes friends, establishes and maintains harmonious relations – and we look forward to continuing our journey by joining Ventures.

Clarissa Lee (5M)

Yeoh Hui Qing received the President's Guides Award at the Istana



The President's Guides Award

The President's Guides Award (PGA) is an award given in recognition of the Guides' love for Guiding and their commitment towards the Guide Movement. I was extremely happy to have received this award in 2016.

My PGA journey has been very fulfilling and it is the pinnacle of my achievements in RV Girl Guides. Being placed in an unfamiliar environment and surrounded by a new group of friends to work with, I had to adapt and overcome the challenges together. Guiders, teachers, and friends have helped me tremendously in every stage, especially in the planning and execution stages.

This experience showed me that when we are out of our comfort zone, we work even harder at improving ourselves in order to surmount obstacles. RV Girl Guides has truly helped me to grow as a person and for that, I will always be grateful.

Yeoh Hui Qing (5G)

RV Girl Guides - Centenary Storybook Project

In 2017, River Valley Girl Guides took part in and were selected as one of the four winners for the Centenary Storybook Project.

2017 marks the 100th year of Girl Guiding in Singapore. As part of the celebrations, Girl Guides Singapore held the Centenary Storybook Project. The project started in June 2016, when more than 100 Brownies and Guides attended two creative writing workshops conducted by Ms Hidayah Amin. Hidayah was a President's Guide and author of award-winning book "The Mango Tree". The participants then went on to use their creativity to submit a story to showcase Guiding values so as to promote the Girl Guides movement.

This competition required us to write an original story and create our storybook for the competition. We had to amalgamate different ideas after taking everyone's suggestions into consideration. Through this, we learnt how to think win-win and synergise. Writing and illustrating our book "Campfire's Burning" was a good learning experience for us.



The Girl Guides with the storybook that they created

Throughout the entire process, we referred to the Guide Law – "A Guide has courage and is cheerful in all difficulties", and

tried our best to include this value in our story. We also included aspects of our school lives such as our teachers and a multi-racial setting. We hope that through this story, readers will be able to gain their moral courage as they realise that they are not alone in standing up for what is right.

We appreciate the once-in-a-lifetime experience to launch our storybook at the Istana and we were very honoured to represent River Valley Girl Guides at this event.

Lee Yan Qing (2D), Tan Shania (2I), Anne Leong Song En (2J) and Chan Yin Leng Ysabel (2J)

Straits Times article on the Centenary Storybook Project: <http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education/girl-guides-singapore-marks-100-years-with-awards-to-over-130-leaders-and>

Sports and Games Achievements

National Softball Championships	B Division Girls – 3 rd A Division Girls – 3 rd A Division Boys – 4 th
National Cross Country Championships	A Division Girls – 4 th
West Zone Table Tennis Championships	C Division Girls – 3 rd B Division Boys – 3 rd B Division Girls – 4 th C Division Boys – 4 th
West Zone Badminton Championships	B Division Girls – 2 nd C Division Boys – 2 nd C Division Girls – 2 nd B Division Boys – 3 rd
National Floorball Championships	A Division Girls – 1 st
National Wushu Championships	A Division Boys – 2 nd C Division Girls – 2 nd A Division Girls – 4 th

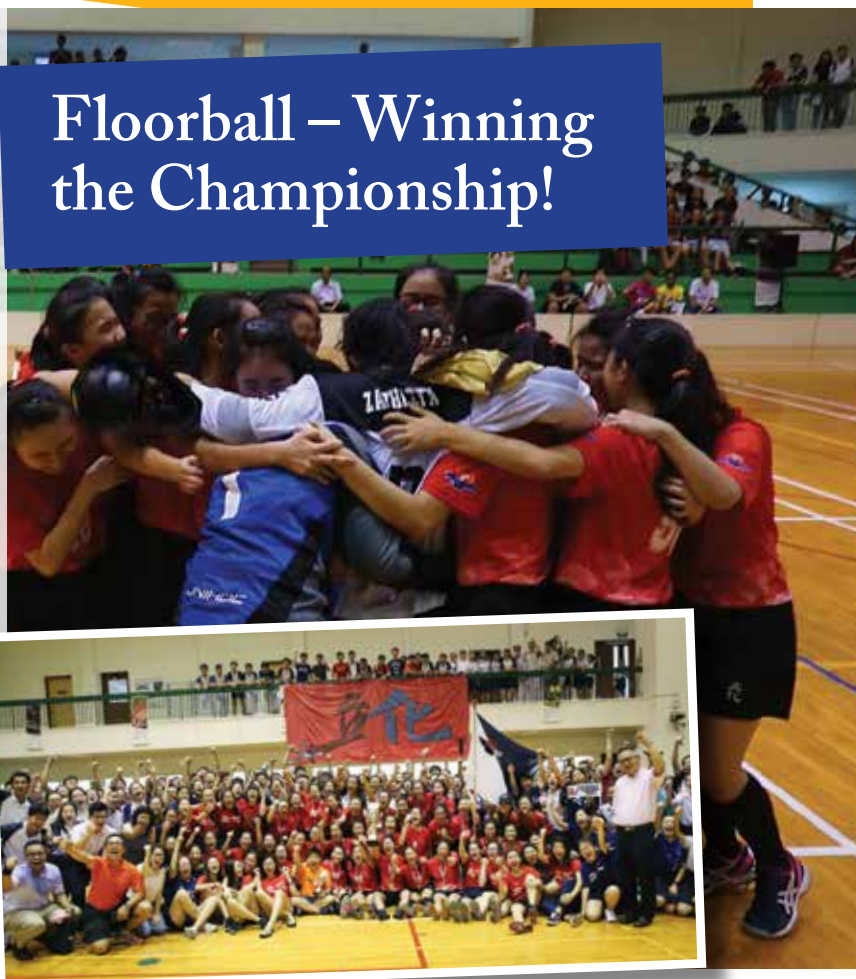
This year, the RV Floorball girls team won the Championship in the 'A' Division National School Games. This is the first time that our school has such an achievement. Our floorball journey was not easy but it was definitely worth it in the end. Each and every floorballer in the team pushed themselves to go the extra mile when the time called for it. Throughout the course of the competition, we banded and supported one another in order to reach our goals.

After winning four out of five games in the preliminary rounds and a tie in the last, we were one of the top 4 teams. Being in the top 4 was already an accomplishment for us but we did not become complacent. We trained even harder and made sure we performed with precision and intensity. After a tough match against Victoria Junior College in the semi-finals, we won with a score of 2-1. Proceeding to the finals, we faced our formidable opponents from Meridian Junior College. It was an intense and nerve-racking match, and we tied at 1-1 after regulation time. Subsequently, we won in the penalty shoot-out.

Miracles do not simply happen by chance, but with grit, determination and tenacity, the floorball team made history this year with our hard-earned championship. We could not have done it without our coach, Stella Chia, who not only trained us but also shaped us into who we are today; and also not forgetting the support from our teachers, friends and family.

Jocelyn Wong (6R) and Chook Win Yan (6K)

Floorball – Winning the Championship!



Congratulations to the triumphant team



The pioneer and the graduating batch of the boys team

Softball – The Journey to Nationals!

The RV Softball 'A' Division Boys made history this year, getting into the National Top 4 for the first time. It has been five years in the making and it has been extremely rewarding to see our efforts come to fruition.

Our journey started in 2012 with only three members, thus we were unable to participate in any competition. However, we continued to train hard, honing our craft. Membership rose in subsequent years and we were able to play our first game, first tournament, and eventually a full season. While we were excited, it was ultimately a bittersweet experience as we

did not win many games. At times, we were extremely demoralised and only got by with the encouragement of our coaches and teachers. Ultimately, we persevered and continued working hard together as a team.

In 2015, we came close to the National Top 4. We played the season pitch by pitch, inning by inning, game by game. We won some, we lost some. Eventually, we lost out on a Top 4 placing due to a three-way tie. We were devastated, but being so close to the cusp of success only served to bring us closer as a team and push us to train harder.

This year, we finally made it to the National Top 4. For the Year 6 students, this was our last season and we dreamed big. While we were disappointed that we

did not make it further, we were satisfied, knowing that we had done our best. As a team, we trained hard together, had fun together and have grown so much as a team. We could not have reached here without the help of our coaches and teachers, and most importantly, one another. We have not always been the best but we have always given our best. We will always remember the amazing plays we never thought we could make and how a successful play made us all jump up and down in excitement. We will remember this journey fondly as we overcame all challenges with perseverance and hard work. We are grateful for the school's unwavering support and we hope that our juniors will continue to bring glory to RV!

Ng Jing Rui (6E)



We have grown in strength over the years!

Singapore Youth Festival

Arts Presentation

Certificate of Distinction

Chinese Orchestra (Secondary School)
 Chinese Orchestra (Junior College)
 Choir (Secondary School)
 Concert Band (Secondary School)
 Percussion Ensemble
 Dance (International, Secondary School)
 Dance (Chinese, Secondary School)
 Dance (Chinese, Junior College)

Certificate of Accomplishment

Chinese Literary, Drama and Debate Society (Secondary School)
 Concert Band (Junior College)
 English Literary, Drama and Debate Society (Secondary School)
 Guitar Ensemble (Junior College)
 String Ensemble (Secondary School)
 String Ensemble (Junior College)

The *River Valley Guitar Ensemble (RVGE)* attained a Certificate of Accomplishment at the biennial *Singapore Youth Festival (SYF)* this year. The SYF is where various Performing Arts CCAs from Secondary Schools and Junior Colleges all over Singapore take to the stage to perform their chosen pieces in front of a panel of judges.

This year, RVGE performed two contrasting pieces, namely *The Waltz of the Flowers* by Tchaikovsky and *Don't Get Around Much Anymore* by Duke Ellington and Bob Russell. Despite facing difficulties along the way, our SYF journey was a fulfilling one. In the course of gearing up for the SYF, much time was spent reaching out to members who faced some problems in handling the various pieces and playing techniques. The additional time and effort taken to assist these individuals made us realise the importance of working together to bring the ensemble to greater heights. The most important lesson we took from our SYF journey was - "The chain is only as strong as its weakest link".

The challenges that the ensemble faced did not stop there. During the SYF judging, RVGE went up against top notch ensembles from other schools. It was an eye-opening experience -- one which encouraged the ensemble to push ourselves even harder in a bid to reach the high standards.

RVGE will continue to work hard to achieve stellar results without forgetting to enjoy the process and have fun doing what we love. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the school, our conductor, Mr Edward Chua, as well as our dedicated teachers-in-charge, Mr Paul Hung and Ms Lee Wei Min. Words cannot describe our gratitude for their support.

River Valley Guitar Ensemble @ SYF



立化华乐团的新加坡青年节之旅

区凌嘉 (5L)、黄慧心 (4J)

两年一次的新加坡青年节对每一个学生来说，都是一种截然不同的体验。无论是第一次参赛的学弟学妹，还是最后一次参赛的学姐学长，对他们来说都是意义深远的。历史悠久的立化华乐团创设于1968年，传承下来的是历届校友对音乐、艺术不懈的追求和精益求精的精神。我们秉持着高标准演奏的信念，倾尽全力，为立化华乐团再创高峰。

为了弹好每一个音符，我们日复一日地进行排练，来提升自己的演奏技巧，加深对乐曲的理解，以求完美地呈现出一曲振奋人心、感动全场的音乐。有了这个信念，我们的学习过程变得轻松许多，大家也意识到互相帮助的重要性，更注重团队的配合。在这个基础上，我们的友谊也更加深厚。

在指挥和老师们的谆谆教诲下，我们终于自信地站上舞台。立化华乐团所付出的努力没有白费，中学部和高中部双双取得了优秀的表现。正所谓“台上一分钟，台下十年功”，整个过程虽然不易，但它深深地烙印在每位成员的心中。立化华乐团一定会再接再厉，演奏出一曲曲优美动听的旋律！

Concert Band



Looking back at the 2017 Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation, our journey as a band has indeed been an eventful one. We put our heart and soul into every rehearsal; perfecting every pitch, tune and rhythm. From the early morning sectionals to the late evening combined practices, the band stayed true to our motto "one band one sound".

"Success is a journey, not a destination" – indeed, the process of coming together, working hard towards a common goal and improving our skills together is worth so much more than any award. This SYF experience has taught us to cherish and celebrate not just the outcome, but also our growth.

This journey would not have been possible without the support and guidance from our conductor Ms Chan Peck Suan, as well as our teachers-in-charge Ms Kasturi, Ms Yvonne Low, Ms Hu Xinran, Mr Daniel Lin and Mr Nicholas Wong.

We hope that the bandsmen of River Valley Concert Band will continue our legacy and bring the CCA to greater heights!

*Vanessa Ow Yan Lin (6N), Jheong Rong Yan (4I),
Wong Jia Xin (4L) and Cheah Mmin Le (4N)*





The Essence of Dance

Dance itself is not all about honing our dance skills and techniques. It is also a reflection of life and most importantly, our history and heritage. Two of our three SYF dances this year were a humble reminder of our forefathers' past struggles and the importance of staying resilient.

Through our dance item 《劫后·重生》, we were able to depict the challenges that the victims of the Bukit Ho Swee fire faced when rebuilding their lives. The Senior High dance item 《捡纸皮箱的老人》 was a moving portrayal of the elderly cardboard collectors struggling to make a living in Singapore. Both dances enabled us to gain a deeper understanding of our history and better appreciate the contributions of our pioneers.

We are proud that all three of our SYF items, including "Blush of the Crimson Dawn", brought us the Distinction Award. This would not have been possible without the continuous support from the school, our family and friends.

Ng Yu Heng (4B), Tan Weeleng (4E)



English Literary, Drama and Debate Society

The SYF journey has not been an easy one as it was filled with obstacles and challenges. This year, the Junior High section of the English Literary, Drama and Debate Society (ELDDS) took on the challenge of choosing a play that pushed us to step out of our comfort zone. It was unlike any other that we had done before but as a team, we worked hard at re-interpreting the play, bringing the story to life and doing justice to the original play. After all, ELDDS Drama is not just a CCA but a family and a home to those of us who are passionate and adventurous. During the SYF rehearsals, everyone was pushed beyond our limits. It was definitely not an easy journey but we are happy to say that in the end, we have arrived!

Ong Zhiqing (4B) and Ng Yinn Yii (4M)

中文学会戏剧组 《理所当然桃花源》

许玉菁 (3E)

中文学会戏剧组今年参加了新加坡青年艺术节，并演出了自创剧《理所当然桃花源》。该剧颠覆了人们对性别的刻板印象，跳出限制，拨开迷思，开创新局。学生们以喜剧的方式，怪诞颠倒的时空结构来表达严肃而辩证的主题：我们的世界需不需要理所当然？观众们心领神会的笑声是对我们最大的肯定。剧本的主题是戏剧组的成员们集思广益，从中选出大家最感兴趣的话题来进行创作。从收集资料到选择题材创作的过程中，指导老师会与我们分享自己想到的可能性，激发我们进一步思考与发展。坚持学生自我创作不容易，大家必须经过无数次的细节更改，以确保剧本能最准确地表达我们的所思所想。每一次的彩排都会有不一样的变化和改动，因此演员得时刻集中注意力。每一次的演出都必须要有后台同学的支持，这让我们明白一部戏的台前幕后，不同方面的准备都是不可缺失的。最后演出时，才能深深地体会到每一个人的努力及团队合作的价值与意义。

一路走来，我们给戏剧增添了不一样的色彩，戏剧也让我们成长了许多。





The Indomitable Spirit of String Ensemble

The RV String Ensemble is a place where passionate individuals come together to create music. We were pleased to see our hard work rewarded with a Certificate of Accomplishment for SYF 2017.

In the months leading up to SYF, every CCA session was an unpredictable one, requiring us to be adaptable. Our practices ranged from the rigorous to the wacky, where our conductor, Mr Josher Loi, would break us out of our weekly routine of sectionals and ensemble sessions. We practised in open areas such as the canteen to build our stage confidence and project our music without affecting the intonation. We even practised in a pitch-dark room where we strained our ears to listen out for one another's parts. These novel methods made our ensemble sessions more interesting and it became something we looked forward to every week.

Through our journey, we gained a better understanding of the importance of looking out for everyone in the CCA. It was particularly touching to see some members step up to mentor one another as SYF drew near. As musicians, we bonded through our music as we persevered through countless repetitions of specific passages, correcting each other in the process. We benefited from constructive criticism and developed a keener ear for errors in the process. Regardless of level or section, we are an ensemble, where all sections come together in a blend of melody and harmony. We are thankful for the strong friendships made in our CCA, and grateful to the school, our conductor and our teachers-in-charge for the support and encouragement along the way.

Hu Huiying (4D), Lin Ruoxuan (4B), Zhang Yingjia (6D) and Ho Heng Yee (6J)

River Valley Chorale

The River Valley Chorale received a Certificate of Distinction for the SYF Arts Presentation 2017. Although our learning started off slow, we persisted in the face of challenges, heartened by the encouragement we received from our peers and teachers.

Our SYF journey was not always an easy one. Following the Choir's successful stint at Limelight 2016, many performing opportunities for school celebrations arose. As a result of our packed schedule, preparations for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation started a little later than usual. In the beginning, we were extremely uncertain about how well we could perform, having merely a few months to master three new songs. The success of learning an entire song in only two weeks made us realise that hard work and effort indeed pay off.

To aid us further in our preparation, we attended a workshop conducted by Mr Jonathan Velasco, a renown choral conductor from the Philippines. The numerous tips and pointers Mr Velasco gave helped us to better understand how we could effectively train our voices to ensure that we could do our best for the Arts Presentation. In addition, we had the opportunity to participate in a choral exchange with five other school choirs. This allowed us to expand our appreciation of diverse repertoires and receive comments from other conductors to improve our vocal techniques.

Ultimately, we were only able to succeed with the help of our conductors, teachers-in-charge and peers for their tireless support, and for that we are grateful.

Jason Yeo Thiam Poh (4M)





SYF Concert - The Cue before the Glamour

To kickstart the SYF festivities, spectacular performances by the various performing arts CCAs were presented in a SYF showcase. The post-SYF concerts, split between two themes – local and international – highlighted the skillful artistry of the performers. We saw the outstanding works of local artists like Benjamin Lim Yi and Dick Lee come to life. Enthralled by performances like "Waltz of the Flowers" and "Andante Festivo", everyone was captivated by works of international artistes as well.

However, behind the glamour and glory on the stage was an intensive yet rewarding planning process for the Aesthetics Council. Members had to work in harmony, and ensure that the organisation and execution of the entire concert was smooth and impressive. Even though numerous challenges arose during the planning process, each obstacle was a golden opportunity to hone our leadership and communication skills.

We would like to express our utmost gratitude to the school for the unwavering support, the performing arts CCAs, the respective teachers-in-charge, and everyone else who had contributed in one way or another. RV Aesthetics Council will strive to further improve and promote the arts so that RVians will develop a lifelong appreciation for it.

Chen Wei Hannah (4C), Dilys Chuah Qi Wei (4M), and Yong Jing Jing (4F)



*Performing at the Esplanade
alongside other finalists*

Making it to the finals of the 2017 SYF Theme Song Competition

The Singapore Youth Festival is an annual event organised by the Ministry of Education (MOE) that aims to showcase the talents of students nationwide. Typically, the theme song for the festival is composed by industry professionals. This year, however, for the first time, a song writing competition was held instead. To put our creativity to the test, Gerald Goh (5P), Min Kabar Kyaw (6P) and I composed a song "Tell The World" and created a music video for it as well. We were heartened to see our hard work pay off when our song was shortlisted as one of the top 10 finalists.

Writing the song from scratch was quite a challenging task as it was my first attempt at it. It was a tough but amazing journey. For starters, I came up with some melodies and rhythms but I realised that I could not do this alone, so I turned to my friends for help. We came together and spent hours in the studio, trying out different combinations to fine-tune the song and find the best way to record it. In the collaboration process, we were surprised to find that we had much in common despite growing up in different countries. We learnt more about one another's culture and this shows that music serves as a common platform to bridge differences.

When we shot the music video near the National Gallery Singapore, it was raining and the entire crew had to work in the rain to complete the filming. It was a challenging process, but ultimately a rewarding one when we saw that the finished product was one that we could be proud of. "Tell The World" is not only a song that we have created, it also represents friendship and the good memories we forged.

On 1 July 2017, we performed live at the Esplanade Library along with the other finalists. We had an impromptu collaboration with Trinity Lim and Megan Quah from Anglican High School, whose song "In My Hands", eventually became the official theme song of the 2017 SYF. This special inter-school collaboration was further testament to the power of music to transcend differences, and connect and bond virtual strangers.

Jia Shengzhi James (6P)



*Congratulations to Gerald,
Shengzhi and Min*

The successful event calls for a celebration!

Mathematics Leaders Academy – River Valley Mathematics Challenge 2017

Estimating the number of stickers needed to over the entire R

How many multiples of 47 are there from the numbers 1 to 1000? Is it possible to find the value of the last digit of 2^{2017} ? These were some of the challenges that made Primary 6 students rack their brains at the River Valley Mathematics Challenge (RVMC) 2017, which was proudly organised by the Mathematics Leaders Academy (MLA) on 7 April 2017.

Since its inception in 2009, the annual RVMC seeks to fuel the students' interest and intellectual curiosity in Mathematics and push beyond their abilities to achieve greater heights.

This year, taking on the role of adventurers and entrusted by King Newton to rescue Princess Calculus, participants raced against time to solve mind-boggling questions at four stations, namely Speed, Geometry, Logic and WILD! Following that, participants participated in a series of hands-on activities titled "Math-chitects", where they gained a deeper insight into the pivotal role that Mathematics plays in architecture.

The challenge culminated with the highly anticipated closing ceremony and prize presentation where participants witnessed the sweet reunion of Princess Calculus and King Newton. After an intense round of competition, Henry Park Primary School

emerged as the overall champion and was awarded the School Challenge Trophy.

As organisers, we had to utilize our mathematical knowledge to create interesting and challenging problems. This reinforced our passion for mathematics, especially when we were able to identify the ways advanced mathematical concepts can be used in practical situations. We set out with the aim of creating a platform for participants to collaboratively apply heuristics in the problem solving process, in the hope that this would instill a spirit of inquisitiveness and foster passion for Mathematics. Being able to give back to the community by mentoring the young was a privilege that we did not take lightly, and we were pleased to see the participants enjoy themselves during the challenge.

Ultimately, the planning process was a challenging and fulfilling experience for the organising committee, and we would like to thank our teacher mentors for guiding us throughout the entire journey.

Hor Jasrene (4B)

Students working collaboratively to solve questions



Inter-Class Mathematics Competition



Students brainstorm what the boxes are trying to them

The Mathematics Leaders Academy (MLA) organises an inter-class Mathematics competition every year for Year 1 and 2 students. This competition seeks to develop our love for Mathematics as well as share our passion for the subject with our peers.

This year, a new component was introduced in the competition – a pre-competition class task which required students to form geometrical shapes using their hands to create shadows that resemble famous architectural structures. The quality of the submissions reflected the students' ability to work as a team, plan, and think critically and creatively.

During the competition, participants' spatial thinking and logical reasoning skills were assessed in the Geometry and Logic rounds, their speed and accuracy in solving questions were pushed to the limits in the Speed round, and their knack for applying mathematical concepts to real-life situations was put to the test in the Application round. Perseverance and effective collaboration demonstrated by the teams led to neck-and-neck results.

The organising committee would like to extend our gratitude towards the school for giving us the opportunity to bring these interactive learning experiences to the student body. We greatly enjoyed the planning process and we hope that the participants found the activities enriching and fun too!

Low Yu Hong (3A)

郑夏韵校友献唱并分享-追梦之路



中四双文化营 新谣分享 -追梦之路

陈子您、吴倩姿(4L)

人们常说，梦想是成功的起源。但仅仅有梦就能成功吗？

5月24日，为配合立化双文化营，我校迎来了多位活跃于中文乐坛的人士到场演讲。他们包括了两位年轻歌手谢慧娴和易薇倪、新加坡海蝶音乐的董事总经理吴剑峰先生、以及最近在中国大型音乐节目《梦想的声音》中成为唯一入选的海外选手—郑夏韵女士。其中，易薇倪、吴剑峰和郑夏韵皆是立化校友！通过他们的分享，我们不但对新谣有了更深入的了解，也强烈感受到他们每一位都只为一个字—“梦”而去奋斗。他们证明了只要勇于追梦，便能创造巅峰。

谢慧娴和易薇倪分别为大家演唱了自创的歌曲，让大家都陶醉其中。接着，她们分享到自己起初都只是对歌唱有着浓厚的兴趣，并不会自创歌曲。但为了提升自己成为更全面的歌手，她们在公司的培训下，努力尝试及挑战自己，现在最快能在15分钟内写出自创的歌曲。她们俩勇于尝试新事物并且力求上进的精神是我们学习的好榜样。一旦认定了自己的梦想或目标就要勇往直前，不要畏惧，那么自己所付出的都不会白费，必定有令人惊喜的收获。

郑夏韵的人生旅途走得非常坎坷。她32岁才开始学习声乐，43岁辞去工作，转行成为专业歌手。“我每三年就会经历一场大劫，但我觉得这是上天给我的考验”。郑夏韵是这样形容自己的。有一次，她因为一场大病几乎失去了听觉。但是凭借老师的鼓励和自己对音乐的热爱以及不屈不挠的精神，她拒绝向命运低头，一心朝自己的梦想走下去，最终开创了自己的一片新天地。

吴剑峰先生则与我们分享了一个海蝶在发展的过程中所遇到的有趣点滴。原来JJ林俊杰在发行第一张专辑时很不幸碰上了沙斯病毒肆虐的时期，因此公司无法在中国的一线城市里大力造势宣传。在这种情况下，海蝶得有所变通，通过在二、三线城市宣传，“反攻”回一线城市，扭转了逆境。如何在竞争激烈的流行音乐市场内生存，使公司的经营策略倍受考验，尤其是在应变能力这一方面。从中，我们学到了通往梦想与成功的道路难免会受阻，但关键的是要转变思维，才能有新的突破。

通过学长学姐们的这些经历，我们学到了一个道理：有梦，才能创造奇迹。但只有梦，只是踏出了通往成功的第一步。加上了努力、毅力和创意，即使看似难如登天的事，也能完成。



中三双文化学生企业参观

双文化青建之旅

程家俊(3C)

四月二十四号，立化中学双文化班学生参观了青建集团股份有限公司(南洋)。作为一位来自中国的留学生，我听说青建是中国成功的民营企业，又来到新加坡建立国际市场的总部，激发了我浓厚的兴趣。

在出发前，吕老师为我们介绍了公司概况：青建集团股份有限公司成立于1952年，主要从事国内外工程项目建设与投资、地产开发、资本运营。我暗暗嘀咕：这么老的公司，想必曾经是国企了，又是以房地产为主要产业，我还以为多有趣呢。到时候，无非就是为我们介绍介绍楼盘，讲讲公司的历史罢了。

于是，带着这样的心情，我踏进了青建公司的大楼。一迈入楼内，便使我眼前一亮，一套极为现代化的室内家居映入眼帘：宽大的电视屏幕、摆放整齐的高脚桌椅、干净的地面、舒适的沙发。“欢迎回家。”像是科幻电影里的机器人般说话。“已将室内温度调控至您十分钟前设定的二十七度。您还有两条未读留言。”接着，讲解员姐姐在手机上按了一下，突然，对面的墙上就传来了影像，而头顶上的环绕立体声也开始工作。看着屏幕中壮丽的景色，听着四周传来的涛涛水声，我好似真的临江而坐，奔涌激浪使我心潮澎湃。“这便是青建旗下的Highlife打造的智能家居。”我心理暗喜，若我家像这样，就肯定天天宅在家里了。

结束了智能家居之旅，我们前去聆听了青建集团贾总的详细介绍。“我们公司要抓住中国一带一路和美国亚太经济合作的机遇，抓住在全球化大背景下的国际形势，进行发展。”我为之一震，这不正是我们双文化课堂上学习的内容吗？他继续为我们介绍着青建集团是如何在一带一路下沿着海上丝绸之路布局的。在从国际化这样的宏观视角向我们介绍的同时，还时不时举出了青建在亚洲各地承建的项目和具体解说房地产发展趋势。不得不说，听了贾总的讲解，平时上课学到的索然无味的全球化知识和枯燥的案例分析在我脑海中瞬间变得具体化、立体化了。不仅丰富了我对国际公司的认知，也拓展了我分析问题的角度。

青建之旅，使我既领略了世界尖端的智能科技，又了解了以公司视角思考全球化的世界发展趋势。出了青建的大门，我还在思索今天的参观，忽然明白了老师让我们到此参观的用意。青建来自中国，带来的是中国的资本和运营方式。而总部设在新加坡，承包建造着本地特色的工程项目，为新加坡提供了不少就业机会，也间接刺激了新加坡的实体经济市场。而他旗下的Highlife学习了欧洲高度创新的智能家居，并以高水平引领世界发展。这不正是双文化的精神吗？融贯中西，为世界做出贡献的国际型人才。一切的一切，都不谋而合。

“我们的企业愿景便是成为一个顾客满意、员工自豪、公众尊敬的中国一流、世界尊敬的建设品牌。”想着贾总略带骄傲的结束语，我也暗暗下定决心：我要成为让学校骄傲，家人自豪，融贯中西的具备国际视野的双文化人。

中四双文化营 - 走近世界

孙雯桢 (4B)

为了提升中四同学的跨文化技能以及对于全球时事的关注度与了解度，激发学生对与华文相关科目的兴趣。立化中学双文化领袖中心于5月22日至24日举办了为期3天的中四双文化营，主题为“走近世界”。希望在双文化领袖中心的筹划带领下，立化学生能把握当今世界的发展脉络，拥有与时俱进的能力。

为了让双文化营顺利进行，高一与中四的学生筹委早在两个月前就开始了筹备工作，每个人身兼数职，台前幕后忙得不可开交。虽然劳累，但筹委们热情满满，毫不懈怠，在筹备的过程中，也培养了自身的领导力。在这三天，高一和中四的双文化班学生带领其他中四的学生们通过主题演讲与有趣的游戏，在学习中享受乐趣，在游戏中增广见闻。

5月22日，文化时事竞赛为双文化营拉开了序幕。所有的中四班级通过班内竞赛筛选出班级前三进入决赛，并在决赛中角逐出年级前五名。文化时事竞赛不仅考查学生对中西文化历史的掌握，更考验学生对时事新闻的关注度，并通过科技平台Kahoot来设计问答，激发学生的兴趣。随着世界的发展，全球化进程不断加快，人与人，地区与地区，国家与国家之间的各种交往也越来越密切。交往越深入，文化交往就越频繁，文化的冲突也就越来越凸显。接下来活动就特别选取三个视频，从不同侧面反映出一些文化冲突及融合，其中电影《刮痧》选取的片段，从法庭激烈辩论中折射出中西方在思想观念与社会文化中的鸿沟与障碍，给在座的同学带来不小的文化震撼。接着各班同学在课堂展开了认真的讨论，从中对中西方文化的冲突与融合有了更深入的认识，也深深体会到提高自己跨文化交际能力的重要性。

第二天丰富多彩的游戏可以说是活动的高潮，其中包括了关于中西方文化的大组游戏，与许多包含着不同元素的小游戏站。就拿中方文化大组游戏“脑力争霸”来说，参赛者在躲避脑力黑客与其他玩家争夺脑力值积分的同时，游戏也包括了问答环节来使参与者获得脑力值积分，让游戏在刺激的同时激发玩家的思考。问题范围十分之广，种类包括经济、文化、体育、地理、娱乐，使中四的参赛者们探索不同的知识领域，再加上有关西方文化的题目，多方面增广见闻，提升跨文化的技能。

双文化营的最后一天，我们也很荣幸邀请到本地两位资深翻译工作者为我们做了专题演讲，他们通过活泼有趣、贴近生活的方式让大家真切体会到翻译的实用性、趣味性与艺术性。最后中四班级为我们带来的是精彩课题呈现，课题包括“虎妈教育与放养式教育-何者更有利于孩子的发展”和“政府在考虑到经济发展与安全问题的前提下，是否应该接受难民”等。经过三个小时左右的准备时间，每个小组都精心准备了独特的呈现方式，如法庭上的辩论、演绎小品等，通过有趣的方式从课题的不同角度进行分析与探讨。当学生们做好详细的调查并亲身把课题内容呈现出来时，他们加深了对中国当代，乃至全世界都在关心的问题的了解，种下了对当代课题感兴趣的种子。

“天下无不散之筵席”，双文化营虽然落下了帷幕，但每一位双文化学生探索文化的历程将不断延伸拓展。希望通过这次活动，立化的同学们能从新的角度接触中西文化，培养出对双文化课程的兴趣，成为一名有见识和负责任的公民，及时对社区、国家和全球性课题进行反思并作出回应，将来才能在充满不确定的大环境下有能力面对更多的挑战。

中一“寻根觅源”之旅

陈崇瑄、颜子凌 (1C)

第二学段最后一周，我校为中一生精心安排了以“寻根觅源”为主题的一系列活动与学习之旅。这一系列活动让我们进一步了解了华族文化与习俗。其中，让我们印象最深刻的活动包括新谣分享会、传统戏曲分享会以及包粽子！

我校请来了校友郑夏韵学姐和吴剑峰学长跟我们分享。现为海蝶总经理的吴剑峰学长分享了许多关于新加坡音乐行业的知识，他鼓励对音乐感兴趣的同学，将新谣的精神继续传承下去。郑夏韵学姐则分享了她在音乐道路上的心路历程。她所说的：“坚持、坚强，并坚信自己。”这句话，让我们印象特别深刻。

由悦韵轩主持的《传统戏曲分享会》也让我们印象十分深刻。让我们觉得最惊讶的是男演员竟然可以反串，演女角色，女演员也同样可以反串。我们听了大吃一惊，因为我们看的电视剧或电影里，男演员和女演员都是演自己相应性别的角色，所以这令我们难以想象，听得目瞪口呆。我们从《传统戏曲分享会》里也学到了传统戏曲演员们常用的一种表演手法，也就是虚拟的表演方式。例如：演员拿起一条马鞭时，就可以代表他在骑马。通过这个分享



李校长与同学们一同包粽子！

会，我们不禁对传统戏曲有了更深一层的了解，也认为广博的华族传统文化应该永远被保存和流传下去。

“寻根觅源”之旅的最后一天早上，是我们引颈企盼的包粽子活动。一开始包粽子时，老师先给我们用报纸练习怎么包粽子，过后才用真的粽叶包粽子，还在里头加了糯米。很多同学都包得不错，还被老师点名拍照留念。可惜我们几个人手不巧，包得白米“喇…喇…喇…”一直漏，结果粽子没包成，只留下了两片粽叶。包完粽子后，满桌满地都是糯米，不仔细看，还会以为食堂下了一场雪。所以大家就齐心协力把地上、桌上的糯米都打扫干净。

一周的“寻根觅源”学习之旅很快就来到了尾声。这一周的活动让我们获益良多。最重要的是，通过这一周的活动与学习之旅，我们学到了很多在课堂上没接触到的华族文化与习俗。

Applying what they have learnt about Changi Airport

Minister for Social and Family Development
Mr Desmond Lee interacting with the Y.LEAD
facilitators and participants

Y.LEAD 2017 - Leading In An Increasingly VUCA Environment



In this journey of "Leading in an Increasingly VUCA Environment", we learnt more about the **G**overnment, **E**nvironment and **T**echnology through panel discussions and learning journeys to the Maritime Gallery, Land Transport Authority and Changi Airport.

During the Y.LEAD Opening Ceremony, our Guest-of-Honour, Minister for Social and Family Development Mr Desmond Lee spoke about global challenges and the traits young people must possess in order to overcome them. During the Question and Answer segment, he interviewed a few students to find out more about their thoughts on the aging population in Singapore. It was a very enriching session as the Minister was able to hear some of the students' concerns while the young leaders gained insights into the workings of the government.

Do you know that palm oil is used in coffee, egg and kaya toast? This is something we took away from the panel discussions which covered topics ranging from cybersecurity to the haze, offering multiple perspectives on issues in the various sectors. On top of that, in the newly-added cultural segment, many of the participants tried their hand at calligraphy and reversi.

The highlight of the seminar was the '15-Hour Challenge' where participants took on the role of a statutory board and come up with a prototype and a plan to handle a pandemic. The challenge was simply mind-blowing as students danced to a remix of *butterfly*, put up a news broadcast and put up dramatic skits. It was heartening to see young leaders from various schools and countries brave the 15 hours of non-stop challenge together.

The programme concluded with Commencement Night. We dressed up and sang our hearts out to Bon Jovi and 杨培安. Nothing can encapsulate the value of this shared experience, save for the tears shed at the end of the seminar. Everyone had an unforgettable experience and a lesson about leadership. Y.LEAD may have ended but the memories and friendships will last. For the organising committee, Y.LEAD was enriching too.

As young leaders, we have learnt so much from our distinguished guests, teachers and peers. Leading in a volatile world is no doubt challenging, but with our newly-equipped skills, we are definitely excited to dig deeper into our unique leadership capabilities and discover ways to contribute to the increasingly VUCA world!

Moo Jia Rong (5C) and Kwee Zhi Hua (5P)

Bhangra Dance performance



The climax of the celebration was the singing of popular NDP songs

National Day Celebrations 2017

During this year's National Day concert, the emcees took the audience on a special trip to a "museum", where each performance was an 'exhibit'. Based on the theme "With togetherness and resilience, we will strive towards excellence, encompassing the Singapore Spirit", the concert performances highlighted the importance of togetherness, resilience and excellence.

To reflect the cultural diversity in Singapore and to remind us to embrace one another's culture and differences, we were treated to a Dikir Barat performance, Bhangra Dance and a Street Dance performance. The RV Dance Society conveyed to us the importance of resilience and unity in the face of adversity by showing how the victims of the 1961 Bukit Ho Swee fire rebuilt their lives in a moving dance.

We were also very privileged to have an esteemed alumnus, Mr Jay Lim, musician and joint-producer of the 2017 NDP theme song "Because It's Singapore!", to lead us in the singing of the song. The concert ended on a high note with our teachers and the school choir singing various community songs.

This concert was a meaningful one as we saw how the constant pursuit of excellence has allowed a small nation to achieve great things. As long as we dare to dream big and work towards our goals, we will be able to scale greater heights. We hope that Singapore will continue to grow from strength to strength!

Giselle Kee (3A), Ho Yuhan (3E), Carmen Wong (3F) and Ng Jerale (3F)



Our special guest performance by Mr Jay Lim, a RV alumnus



The students are excited to learn from the pros!



RVGE Guitarist: Zero to PRO Learning Journey

In the Month of April, all beginner Guitarists attended a series of concerts. The first was "Flight and Fancy", a concert by NUS Guitar Ensemble, held at the School Of The Arts. This was the first guitar concert we had ever attended and it gave us a chance to see first-hand how an ensemble works. The second concert was "PLEIADES" by the Exposé Guitar Ensemble, held at the Victoria Concert hall.

These concerts allowed us to witness the importance of tone and balance in an ensemble. For a piece of music to work and sound good, each player in the ensemble has a part to play. Abstract as it may sound, each player needs to be in sync with one another and play well with expression to create the illusion that each part is 'singing' to one another.

More importantly, the players need to feel and understand the song before they can learn how to express it well. Watching experienced players play each song while bringing out the different feelings was very impactful for us. The chemistry and bond between players in the ensemble were evident. It was heartening for us to see how each player was so passionate about the pieces, swaying to the music and even exchanging smiles with one another. It was also a fascinating experience to witness how different guitar sizes can produce different tones.

In all, attending these concerts inspired and motivated us to be better guitarists. It was an eye-opening experience to look at the various playing techniques and see how different instruments can be combined with guitars to bring out a melodious piece of music. We are grateful to the school and our teachers for the opportunities to attend these concerts, and we look forward to applying what we have learnt to our performances in school.

Toh Sihui (5B) and Lim An Qi (5I)

On 8 August, RV Guitar Ensemble performed for the Boon Lay Community Centre's National Day Celebration Dinner. This was our way to offer our services to the community, and we performed three National Day Songs to celebrate our nation's 52nd birthday.

For many of us, it was our first time performing outside of school. We were worried as we had limited time to practise and many changes were made throughout. Some of us had to step out of our comfort zone by singing in front of a large crowd.

Nonetheless, this event was an amazing experience for us. It was a good opportunity to plan and organise our own performance, and take charge of our own learning. It taught us the importance of good time management and brought us a step closer to overcoming stage fright. In the process, it strengthened our camaraderie and we became more confident. Working together with the help and support of team mates and friends also helped us forge stronger friendships and overcome challenges.

We are grateful to our teachers and instructors for providing us this opportunity to perform and for their capable guidance. Most importantly, we realised that what was more important than performing well was the ability to enjoy ourselves and appreciate the beauty of music. It was a great experience on the whole and we hope to have more opportunities to perform for such events in the future.

Su Bowei (5K), Liberty Neo Xin Yi (5Q) and Choo Yu Wei, Patricia (5Q)

Boon Lay Community Centre – National Day Celebration Dinner

Students rehearsing while waiting for the sound check



The Guitar Ensemble's first public performance!

Students building their tent!



RV Ventures, Eagle Scouts and Girl Guides Camp at Pulau Ubin



Food Auction

The Scouts, Ventures and Guides camp was held at Pulau Ubin from 15 to 16 March 2017. This was the first time we planned a combined camp for the Uniformed Groups, and it was a unique and an enriching experience. In the process of planning for the 2D1N camp, we became well-acquainted with the way our respective CCAs run our activities. This enabled us to learn from one another, and it was extremely beneficial as we applied our newly acquired knowledge in our respective CCAs by introducing new and creative activities.

Through this camp, we were able to teach our participants Scouts and Guiding skills, such as outdoor cooking, knots and lashings and orienteering, in an authentic setting by making use of Pulau Ubin's terrain. The setting also allowed the participants to explore and enjoy the outdoors. We were also able to enhance teamwork and communication amongst patrol members, which also helped to instill discipline and forge strong friendships.

One memorable activity in the camp was the hike around Pulau Ubin to complete various station games with the aim of getting credits for a "food auction". The participants had to show resilience and support one another despite feeling tired. Through active listening, they were able to better understand one another and achieve a win-win situation. The participants also enjoyed outdoor cooking with the food items which they had successfully bid for during the "food auction".

Apart from identifying the values and skills they had learnt at the camp, the participants applied their learning when planning activities for their respective CCAs. For the organisers, it was extremely heartening to see that the aims of the camp were achieved.

Swee Kaih Lerh, Stefanie (3J) and Jolene Teo (4I)



Starting a fire requires much preparation!



华乐队演奏

月下同行 庆中秋

李星宇(3C)



准备提灯笼

2017年9月15日，一年一度的中秋节庆祝会如期在我校举行。华灯初上，夜幕低垂，同学们陆陆续续前来参加我校华文部精心筹办的“月下同行”中秋庆祝会。

游戏摊位首先开锣。诸多游戏广受欢迎，前来参与的同学们络绎不绝，校园内人声鼎沸。其中，“记忆大侠”这个游戏非常具有挑战性，虽然前来挑战的同学非常多，但能顺利过关的却寥寥无几。挑战成功的同学们心花怒放，而挑战失败的，也并未气馁，再一次排队尝试。除了各式各样的小游戏，还有历年来好评如潮的“搞怪立可拍”，老师及同学们穿上古装，拿起道具，体验节日气氛，同时记录快乐瞬间，增进师生情谊，其乐融融。

游戏之余，学生们也在图书馆前的“美食街”一边玩游戏一边品尝中秋传统美食，如切糕、月饼等。立化家长教师联谊会的家长们也为大家准备了制做冰皮月饼的材料和工具，在他们耐心指导下，师生们体会了亲手制作月饼的乐趣。

与此同时，我校“立德门”前也上演了引人入胜的皮影戏：三借芭蕉扇之中秋版，让许多观众兴味盎然。游戏活动时间同学们都玩得酣畅淋漓，也得到了心仪的奖品。

七点，演出隆重登场，立化华乐团献上了两首曲目：《那些年》和《城里的月光》，为晚会拉开了帷幕，浓郁的中秋气氛带动了全场。随后我校师生分别在舞台上“各显身手”，展现了他们珠圆玉润的歌声与高山流水的琴艺。晚会的一大亮点便是展廷同学与天傲同学带来的相声表演，让场内的笑声不绝于耳。随即而来的“校园KTV”之师生对垒将晚会气氛推向高潮。

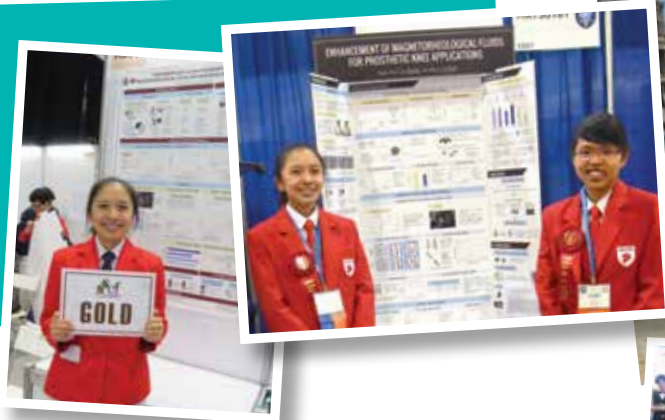
玩过了其乐无穷的趣味游戏，尝过颊齿留香的美味佳肴，拍下典雅复古的古装扮相，观赏完丝丝入扣的精彩表演，接着进入了提灯游园会环节，星星点点的烛火在色彩斑斓的灯笼中摇曳生姿，三三两两的同学们在操场上谈笑风生。

在立化师生欢声笑语的气氛中，中秋晚会圆满结束。

Clocking in at the Big Ben

Chow Kit Mun's team won a Gold Award at the SSEF

Chow Kit Mun (6D) and her team-mate at their poster presentation booth at the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair



2017 Intel™ International Science & Engineering Fair

From 13 to 21 May 2017, my team had the honour of representing Singapore for the second time at the Intel™ International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) held in Los Angeles, USA, after achieving a Gold Award at the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair (SSEF). Each year, approximately 2000 high school students – each of them is a winner of state or national science fairs from more than 75 countries – are offered the opportunity to showcase their research projects at the ISEF, the world's largest international pre-college science competition.

Last year's ISEF taught us the importance of having a clear application in mind before embarking on our Materials Science project "Enhancement of Magnetorheological Fluids for Prosthetic Knee Applications." This new investigation was hence more focused and thorough. This has not only allowed us to carry out the research more effectively, it was also easier for us to present the problem and solution to the judges and other visiting academics.

Driven by our love for science, we visited as many of the 1700 project booths as possible. Once again, we were awed by the quality of the research and immense passion shown by budding scientists across the world. Winning the Second Award in the Materials Science Category in ISEF is a testament to our hard work and lessons learnt. SSEF and ISEF 2017 were the culmination of a two-year research journey that we will always cherish.

Chow Kit Mun (6D)



Dinner with RVHS alumni at Gold Mine London

we also saw first-hand how control officers monitor buses on the roads in real-time to ensure optimal scheduling of buses. Hiscox, an insurance company, was another remarkable place we visited, where we learnt more about actuarial science and the Mathematics involved in the job of actuaries. These professionals shared with us insights from their work experiences over lunch and even treated us to a rare tour of Llyod's of London, a leading insurance company! From these interactions, we were able to gain insight into the real world applications of Mathematics, making our pursuit of knowledge a more meaningful one.

It was a great privilege to visit renowned institutions such as Imperial College London where we learnt about the Mathematics behind Google Search, and University of Cambridge where we toured the Engineering Department and listened to our senior Wan Moquan (class of 2010) share about his PhD research on Speech Synthesis. The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications talk on mathematical modelling of complex fluid flows was yet another eye-opener because of its rich mathematical content. These experiences deepened our knowledge of Mathematics and inspired us to learn more.

Another highlight of the trip was a dinner with ten of our seniors who were studying in the UK as they encouraged us to work harder and consider an overseas education. We were fortunate to have the opportunity to interact with our seniors who shared with us their perspectives on university life.

In all, the trip was enriching and educational. Besides learning about the importance of Mathematics and its applications beyond the classroom, the trip added depth and breadth to our global perspective, and taught us valuable life skills and lessons which we are thankful for.

To look at some of the exciting moments which we captured during the trip, visit our MLA Instagram page @rvhs.mla.

Kong Szi Heng (5C) and See Yuanru (5J)

A Mathematical Learning Journey to the UK

From 20 to 29 May, 10 Year 5 students from the Mathematics Leaders Academy embarked on a learning journey to London and Cambridge to deepen our learning of Mathematics and appreciation of the rich culture in the United Kingdom.

There were many takeaways to glean from the places we visited and the interactions we had with various people. At the Cambridge Centre for Computing History, we wrote programming codes to model the projectile of a stick thrown into the air.

At Tower Transit, we not only toured an operational bus depot and repair garage,

Attending a robotics workshop at the MIT Museum



RV alumnus Liu Chang sharing about his work experience at Oracle



Winston Fu (5J) meeting his fellow group mates at the Maseeh Hall at MIT for a cross-cultural exchange



MOE Overseas Student Attachment Programme: Centre for Excellence in Education – Research Science Institute

Science Leaders Academy OELP to New York, New Jersey & Boston

From 20 to 29 May 2017, nine students embarked on an overseas experiential learning programme to Boston, New York and New Jersey under the Science Leaders Academy (SLA) Global Science Village Programme. The trip enhanced our understanding of science and technology, and developed our global awareness and cross-cultural skills.

The highlight of the trip was the research exchange with our sister school, Bergen County Academies (BCA), New Jersey, where we interacted with the local students and shared our research projects with one another.

We were inspired by the enterprising mindset of the BCA student researchers who brought their research one step further by examining their feasibility and market potential.



Research exchange at BCA

Besides BCA, we were privileged to visit the Harvard Innovation Lab and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Media Lab, where designers, technologists, and research experts come together to design technologies for people to create a better future. We also had the opportunity to interact with our alumni, Zong Guo and Liu Chang, who encouraged us to step out of our comfort zones and persevere in our pursuit of excellence.

To cap off, a dialogue session at the UN headquarters and a visit to the 9/11 Memorial Museum helped us to understand the vulnerability of life and the importance of global cooperation in the face of humanitarian issues.

This learning trip inspired us to strive for excellence in our scientific pursuits, and to develop ourselves as leaders who are proactive in making positive changes in our lives and communities.

Wang Kexin (5G) and Xie Yuxuan (5H)

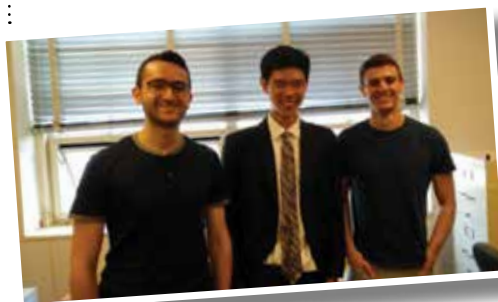


The Centre for Excellence in Education – Research Science Institute (RSI) is a prestigious summer programme hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, USA. It aims to nurture future leaders in the field of science and technology. Highlights of the programme include guest lectures by eminent scientists and the mentorship attachment stints at renowned research institutes where participants can fully immerse themselves in scientific investigation to gain deeper insight into how cutting-edge research is performed. This year, RSI saw the congregation of 80 top science scholars, comprising 50 students from American schools as well as 30 international participants from 15 nations world-wide.

I am honoured to be selected for the MOE Overseas Student Attachment Programme and participate in the RSI from 25 June to 5 August 2017. Not only has this attachment stint offered a unique opportunity for me to conduct academic research at MIT, I also worked on a novel and interesting cross-disciplinary project on adapting a programming algorithm originally used for oceanographic studies to model the spread of brain tumour in humans. It was a steep learning curve for me but under the guidance of my mentors, I honed my skills in scientific research and communication.

It has been a humbling experience, meeting so many brilliant young people and the rich cross-cultural exchange activities have also brought me out of my comfortable zone. Many of the lessons, values and perspectives gleaned from this attachment programme have shaped my beliefs and I hope that one day, I can make a significant contribution to the community through the use of science.

Winston Fu Shun Long (5J)



Winston Fu (5J) with his laboratory mentors



航天夏令营期间我们也登上长城



在中华航天博物馆里的火箭模型

北京航天夏令营

谢雨轩 (5H)

2017年7月16日至22日，由中国宇航学会承办，何鸿燊航天科技人才培训基金会资助的“梦想航天 情系中华”2017航天夏令营在北京举行。目的在于向86名来自台湾、香港、澳门及新加坡的高中学生普及航天知识、弘扬航天精神，为青少年搭建科技文化交流的平台。

作为新加坡的代表，我很荣幸能够参加此次夏令营。首日，开幕式在中国运载火箭技术研究院举行。在讲座上，主讲者详述了中国火箭的分类、构成、发展的历程和成就。从中，我们了解了火箭如何承载人类飞向太空的希望、各项伟大的宇航科技事迹，并见识了中国在当今世界航天发展的领先水平。在中华航天博物馆里，我们目睹了许多火箭及太空梭的原型；望着栩栩如生的庞大模型，让我们叹为观止。航天技术的精密程度不仅出乎我们的意料，宇航员对自己的职责更是一丝不苟，因为每一个操作都可能影响航天任务的成败。

在接下来的几天，我们参观了许多向来不对外开放的重要航天机构，例如：中国空间技术研究院、中国资源卫星应用中心及中国科学院遥感与数字地球研究所，近距离看到各类航天仪器及科研项目。此外，我们还游览了多个名胜古迹包括故宫、长城、人民大会堂及王府井大街，亲身感受中国历史和文化的博大精深。

在告别当天，大家都带着依依不舍的心情拍照留念、交换手信和互换社交媒体账号，以便继续保持联系，期望有缘再见！

通过这次的夏令营，我们学习航天科技，扩大视野，并从中建立了友谊，真的是获益良多。



Internationalisation

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Singapore delegates with their Japanese buddies attending a tea appreciation workshop after the Kobe Science Fair

Kobe Super Science High School Students Fair

The Kobe Super Science High School Students Fair (KSSHSSF), held between 8 and 10 August 2017, is an international science conference organised by the Japan Science and Technology Agency, and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

With the aim of nurturing young talents with a passion for science and to encourage them to share their authentic research practices and creative solutions to scientific and technological problems of tomorrow, the KSSHSSF showcased students' independent research projects from over 200 Japan Super Science High Schools and ten countries such as China, Germany, India, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines and the United States of America. Through its plenary and poster presentation sessions, the fair brought together 4000 participants in rich conversations and exchange of research findings.

We were empowered by this invaluable opportunity at KSSHSSF to meet like-minded peers from different parts of the world, to present our research work and to understand how research is conducted overseas. Despite the language barrier at this cross-cultural event, our passion for science enabled us to engage in fruitful conversations with the participants. From our interactions with the Japanese students, we gained deep insights into how they were trained to think critically as well as how their attributes have a strong bearing on Japan's industrial competitiveness and technological leadership. These learning experiences have deeply inspired us in our pursuit of excellence in science.

Daven Lim Guan Mao (5B)
and Neoh Tzeh Yuan (5L)



Our project presentation booth at KSSHSSF

Overseas Values In Action Trip to Cambodia

During the last week of Term 2, 30 Year 5 students embarked on an enriching 7-day OVIA trip to Cambodia, specifically to Siem Reap and Phnom Penh.

In Phnom Penh, our task was to construct a building which would be shared by two needy families. In the construction process, we learnt how to mix cement, lay bricks, and plaster and paint the walls. It was difficult at first, but we persevered and laboured together as a team under the sweltering heat. Eventually, our efforts paid off, and we were glad to see the gratitude on the villagers' faces upon the completion of the building.

In Siem Reap, we planned lessons and activities for the children in Khnar Primary

RV students conducting lessons for the students at Khnar Primary School

School. Upon arrival, we discovered that what we planned to teach was something that the children had already learnt. Thus, we had to improvise, adapt and be creative in our lesson planning. Our team was truly humbled by the children's joy and thirst for learning and how much they valued the opportunity to attend school.

To cap off the trip, we visited the renowned temples of Angkor Wat and the Genocide Museum, where we acquired knowledge on the rich history of Cambodia. In addition, the inspiring life stories of our guides also inspired us to approach life with greater purpose and determination. This trip has been an eye-opener; one that we will remember for life.

Kitty Chong Ji Di (5L)



Stepping back in time to understand the way forward



Admiring the Newcomen steam engine in operation

In May, 20 students from the Year 5 cohort of the Humanities and Social Sciences Leaders Academy (HSSLA) embarked on trip to Great Britain to study the economic, historical, geographical and literary developments that have shaped so much of the world's history. It was an eye-opening experience, with visits to an underground coal mine, amazing museums and stately homes included in an itinerary that impressed all a sense of history, power and social structures that juxtaposed with current events such as terrorism, Brexit and immigration.

The journey started with the startling revelation that the city of Manchester had a Roman settlement almost 2000 years ago, with traces of Roman architecture still evident today. Visits to museums and galleries were interspersed with activities such as street interviews to get a sense of the local sentiments. Everyone was suitably impressed by the ostentatious splendours of Chatsworth House, the family home of the Duke of Devonshire while the harsh living conditions of the 17th century highlighted how we often take physical comfort for granted in Singapore. As the team traced how Britain's military and political power waxed and waned over the centuries, the relative youth of Singapore was placed in sharp contrast, reminding all how the country has such a long journey ahead.

The team also imbibed the air from Cambridge, where scholarly aspirations were inculcated and an iconic photograph of Singapore's founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew and his wife Ms Kwa Geok Choo was taken on a bridge.

Eventually, the journey continued to London, where the bustling vibe of one of the world's most vibrant societies was equalled only by the timelessness of Buckingham Palace.

The trip was indeed an eye-opening experience that exposed all to the socio-cultural and historical development of Britain, and united the HSSLA students as disciples of the Humanities, regardless of subjects, regardless of form classes. It was an adventure of the senses and imagination, and it would be an indelible memory to treasure.

Reflection by Terry Ng (5L):

Some of the highlights of the trip were attending a drama workshop at the Royal Shakespeare Company and taking a tour of the University of Cambridge campus. I experienced first-hand the pivotal role the humanities and social sciences play in society and gained a deeper appreciation for the humanities subjects.

The trip took on a sombre note almost from the beginning when the Manchester bombing took place while we were in Liverpool. It was a good lesson for us as we saw how the indomitability of the British spirit triumphed in the face of adversity with outpourings of compassion and support without finger-pointing.

I am thankful to the school for giving me this opportunity to experience the cultural elements of Britain, to broaden my horizons and deepen my passion for the humanities and social sciences.



华尔兹街之旅

高一双文化 美国浸濡之旅

田行健 (5F)

今年5月24日，立化高一的双文化学生展开了一段难忘的美 国浸濡之旅。

首先，我们搭乘邮轮参观了自由女神像以及埃利斯岛移民博物馆。通过有趣的讲说以及互动平台，我们深入了解了美国初期的移民情况，也感受到了那些早期移民经历的种种辛酸。他们为了寻求新的生活或为了与亲人团聚，历经千辛万苦来到了这里，却因种种理由被拒于门外，无处可归，实在令人怜惜。

除了博物馆，我们还有幸拜访了联合国总部大厦。大楼的周围摆放了不少联合国会员国赠送的造型独特的雕塑，大楼内部也摆放了许多象征不同国家独特文化的艺术品，令我们大开眼界。

此外，我们还参观了著名的普林斯顿大学。听了专业解说员的讲解，我们了解了该校悠久的历史以及她独具一格的校训。游览了一上午，无论是学校为学生提供的庞大资源，还是壮观的教学楼，都加深了我们对顶尖大学的认知。通过与讲解员交流，我们也了解了进入顶尖大学的要求和必须具备的条件。同日下午，经过数小时的车程，我们抵达了阿米什人的居住地。与世隔绝的阿米什人，即使在科技发达的今天，也依然保留着他们独特的传统，继续过着如同18世纪时的生活。在那里没有污染，更没有都市的喧嚣，放眼望去是一望无垠的田野和广阔的蓝天。宁静又优美的环境加上悠闲的生活步调，实在是让人羡慕他们接近自然的生活方式。

总而言之，这趟旅程让我们体会到了浓郁的西方文化，深入了解美国丰富的近代史，获益良多。



在盖茨堡战场巧遇美国内战角色扮演者

与立达中学校长及老师合影

苏州、上海学习之旅

林恺绮、杨姿伊 (2A)

2017年5月22日，从新加坡樟宜机场乘坐了4个小时的飞机后，我们抵达上海浦东国际机场，开始了七天的上海、苏州的学习旅程。

上海是一座历史悠久的城市，我们参观了许多游客必到的地方，比如新天地和田子坊。新天地是一个保留上海本土文化的旅游景点，也是艺术家和外籍人士聚会的时尚场所。田子坊是由上海特有的石库门建筑群改建后形成的，我们看到了很多古老的建筑，领略到了风情迥异的中华传统文化。对于生活在繁荣、现代化都市中的我们来说，很多景物对我们来说都有些陌生。游览木渎古镇时，我们在各自的扇子上写下“木渎古镇”四个字，然后由扮演皇帝的工作人员分别选出状元、榜眼和探花。相信当年的科举考试一定很难。

在上海的南翔小笼包餐馆，我们学习了如何制作小笼包。那里的厨师个个手艺高

超，他们把馅料包在面皮里随意地捏了几下，就做出了一个个精美的小笼包。可是面皮到了我们的手上却一点也不听我们的使唤，尽管我们放了很少的馅料也还是会把皮弄破。不管怎么样，我们最后都把自己包的小笼包子放进炉子蒸熟。厨师们的小笼包好像一朵朵盛开的花朵，看着它们的时候会感觉到它们好像是在对我们微笑似的。相较之下，我们的则“惨不忍睹”，样子有点变形。但是我们还是津津有味地吃完了自己做的小笼包。这次的经验让鲜少下厨的我们感到既好玩又新鲜，令人难忘。

我们也在苏州立达中学上了两天的课，课程全用华文授课。立达的老师讲话速度很快，我们很多时候都听不明白课文的内容。幸亏与立达伙伴们的沟通完全没有问题，他们还直夸我们英文和华文都讲得都很好，这令我们暗喜。



在木渎古镇模拟古时候科举考试的情形

快乐的时光转瞬即逝，我们如期回到了新加坡。这次的旅程让我们获益不浅，也拉近了同学之间的关系，我们在一起度过的美好时光，将永远烙印在脑海中。

友谊万岁



学习编制中国结

杭州、扬州、上海学习之旅

胡佳智、吴笑云 (2B)

2017年5月20日，2B班杭州、扬州、上海学习之旅开始了。

在杭州，我们第一站是到清河坊街，它是杭州繁华的商业区。两边是明清风格的建筑，飞翘的屋檐，镂空的窗格。我们走在熙来攘往的大街上，感觉仿佛走进了时光隧道，感受到明清两代的繁荣与昌盛。那里的许多老店铺，售卖小吃、精致的雕刻、戏剧脸谱等；也有不少新开的商店，出售许多近代才流行起来的美食与小玩意儿。

我们行程的另一站是到扬大附中东部分校交流，到了那儿，受到校长及师生们的热烈欢迎。学校为我们准备了不少精彩的节目与活动，我们也呈现这两个月来精心准备的表演。虽然在学校只是短短的一天，但却获益良多。我们学习新的中国传统乐器、学习如何包粽子，也结交了不少新朋友。在课堂观课时，我们发现老师教学认真，学生学习态度积极，值得我们学习。接着，我们到扬州最大的超级市场——“沃尔玛”，发现新中

两地的物价还是有差别的，比如新加坡的肉类价格比中国的便宜，但是蔬菜价格却比中国的昂贵。

上海是我们此次学习之旅的最后一站。我们先到外滩，它是上海的金融中心，建在黄浦江沿岸，它的东面即黄浦江，西面是旧上海金融、外贸机构的集中地。外滩沿路有二十多幢风格各异的历史建筑，被誉为“万国建筑博览群”。我们在上海时还尝试亲手制作小笼包。师傅揉了一团团的面粉，让我们用手掌按扁后在里面包了些肉馅，再完成整个小笼包。想要做出精致的小笼包并不容易，我们一开始还找不到窍门，但尝试几次后便能做出了卖相不错的小笼包。当然，亲手制作的小笼包吃起来特别美味。

时光飞逝，在5月26日，我们的学习之旅已接近尾声。我们很感谢校方给予我们出国的机会，让我们接触不同的文化，开阔了我们的视野。

与寿春的伙伴一起上美术课---夏日画扇

2017年上海、合肥学习之旅

肖琮琛 (2C)

2017年5月20日，我们踏上了为期七天的中国学习之旅。

我们首先来到位于黄浦江畔、最具上海城市象征意义的外滩，面对着风格迥异的万国建筑和对岸矗立着的东方明珠、金茂大厦、环球金融中心等摩天大楼，亲身感受了那里丰富的多元文化与不夜城的动人魅力。我们第二天赶往安徽屯溪，参观了中国第一家糕饼主题文化博物馆——徽州糕饼博物馆，展区以“一生一世”为主题，围绕启蒙、婚嫁、求子、经商、祝寿等情境，充分展示了纯正的徽州人传统习俗，让我们体验一次穿越时空的文化之旅，身临其境感受徽州人的一生一世与徽州糕饼的不解之缘。最难以忘记的是我们还亲手做了最有名的黄山烧饼。

之后的宏村之行，让我们有机会走入至今已九百多年的历史、素有“中国的画里

水乡”之美誉的宏村。这里是皖南众多徽派建筑中的代表，被列为世界文化遗产。著名导演李安的电影《卧虎藏龙》就是在这里取景的。领略了古村落的文化后，我们去参观了有中国最美休闲乡村之誉的五里村果园，了解了五里村的历史以及它巨大的水果种植园。其实此行最期待的是看黄山的奇松、怪石、云海、温泉，但因大雨滂沱，不得不取消上山的计划。直奔超市进行了市场调查。我们发现很多日常用品都比新加坡便宜很多，但电子设备的价格还是比较相近的。

最让我们难忘的是在寿春中学与小伙伴们一起上了历史、手工、美术和音乐课，并观看了寿春中学一年一度的经典诵读决赛。寿春的同学才中一就能背诵那么复杂的诗句，这令我们十分佩服。我们还参观了李鸿章故居和美菱电器工厂，收获良多。在中国



品尝我们亲手制作的小笼包，味道真的不错！



的最后一天，我们去了南翔古镇学习做小笼包。

七天学习之旅即将结束，我们心里都有点依依不舍。非常感谢老师们的精心策划，让这趟学习之旅收获满满。

厦门学习之旅

曾钰琦、于嘉璐 (2D)

看！我们摘的长豆！



今年五月下旬，2D班的厦门学习之旅，使同学们大开眼界，获益不浅！

通过参观集美学村和陈嘉庚故居，我们认识了“嘉庚精神”，深深佩服这位爱国华侨的慷慨无私。陈先生体现出的“立德立功”，真是我们立化人学习的最好榜样。

乘搭渡轮，我们来到了号称“钢琴岛”、“无车岛”、“万国建筑博览城”的鼓浪屿。鼓浪屿文化由闽南本土文化、西方文化和侨乡文化融合而成。即使时间推移，带着岁月痕迹的各种旧建筑依然屹立在那里，诉说着历史的沧桑。

行程的其中两天上午，是在厦门五缘实验学校度过的。那里设施完善、环境清幽，师生们也都友善亲切。五缘的学生上课态度认真，仔细聆听老师讲课，并踊跃回答问题。除了随堂听课，我们还有机会到音乐室欣赏华乐与玩乐器，到体育场去练习武术锻炼身体。

在行程第六天上午7时，大家还在半梦半醒之间，突然听见门外急促的敲门声和喇叭声，才得知原来是酒店六楼的厨房失火了。我们立刻从九楼、十楼客房，紧急疏散到楼下的集合地点。幸亏是有惊无险，但是经过这次的亲身体验，相信大家以后也不会对火警演习掉以轻心了。

最后，我们来到了石室书院，亲身体验所谓的“耕读文化”。在那里，我们有机会去菜园摘菜，然后再帮忙洗菜和折菜，而且还学会了包饺子。这一切都是新的体验，因此我们都很兴奋。

总之，我们在短短的七天里见证了爱国华侨对厦门的教育所作出的伟大奉献，参观了闽南独特的建筑风格，体验了莆田的妈祖文化，观察到了新、中教育的异同，这一切都在我们脑海里撞击出思想火花，在心灵里留下永恒的印记。

我们学会包饺子咯！

整装待发 准备登长城!

天津、北京学习之旅

章楚颖 (2E)



2017年5月20日,我们中二E班终于踏上了企盼已久的海外学习之旅。

经过长达五个小时的飞行,飞机安全地降落在北京首都机场。我们直接从机场搭巴士前往第一站—天津。

抵达天津已经是傍晚了,用过了晚饭,我们逛了当地的小吃街。第二天,热情的南开翔宇学校的小伙伴们带我们出外游玩。我们到文化街,了解了天津的历史与妈祖文化。随后我们分组参观自然博物馆、科技博物馆与历史博物馆,博物馆外观设计新颖雄伟,馆内设施齐备,现代化,彻底打破了我们“中国很落后”这个刻板印象。我们还品尝与购买了许多价廉物美的特产,如狗不理包子、桂发祥麻花、耳朵眼炸糕、糖炒栗子;也了解了天津独有的民间艺术杨柳青年画、泥人张彩塑等等。同时,我们也从小

伙伴的口中了解了许多特别的习俗,也建立了深厚的感情。当晚,我们坐观光船游览天津的母亲河——海河。看着河两岸灯火辉煌的高耸建筑,我们对天津的繁华惊叹不已。

第三天上午,我们在南开翔宇学校体验了半天的校园生活。同样是中二生,我们感受到中国学生的压力比我们大多了。他们每天要近晚上八点多才放学,课业十分繁重。我们还欣赏了专业的古筝演奏,更加了解中国传统乐器的流派与风格。下午,我们到天津生态城内的滨海外国语学校参观,学校的外观气势非凡,设施应有尽有,非常先进。我们也了解了天津生态城的社区运作系统与井然有序的垃圾处理系统,跟新加坡的现代化与清洁相比,一点也不逊色。

第四天我们终于到了第二站—北京。参观了蒙牛工厂,领略了当今中国生产线的发达;品尝了颇具风味的北京烤鸭;动手画京

剧脸谱;欣赏功夫表演,进一步了解了中国博大精深的国粹。

随后几天,我们马不停蹄地游览了远近闻名的景点:居庸关长城、颐和园、奥运村、天安门广场、故宫与天坛公园。“不到长城非好汉”,我们全班都成功地登上了长城,都成为了好汉,站在那里,我们能感受到时光之河流逝的痕迹。我们还在四合院里学习包饺子,坐人力三轮车游北京老胡同,体验了当地普通人民的生活。

然而美好的时光总是一晃而过,七天的时间一眨眼就过去了,纵然再不舍,我们还是得踏上归途。

通过这次旅行,我们亲身体验了当今中国的极速发展,加深了对中华文化丰富底蕴的理解,也开阔了我们的视野。同时,师生之间的感情也更上一层楼了。

北京学习之旅

刘馨、黄敏怡 (2F)

故宫合影



在五月二十二日,我们抵达了中国的首都—北京。很多同学都是第一次到北京,因此都很兴奋。

在北京,我们参观了很多著名景点,包括:天坛公园、前门老街、茶馆、天安门广场、故宫博物院、万里长城,也到北京九中进行交流。

在故宫博物院,天坛公园和天安门广场,我们看到了很多古老的建筑物。导游的精彩讲解把我们深深地吸引住了。她给我们讲了这些地方的历史、有趣的故事,并解答了我们的疑问,让我们进一步了解了这些地方,激发了同学们对中国历史的兴趣。

在茶馆,我们除了品尝各种各样的茶,包括普洱茶、茉莉花茶及高山茶等,也了解了各种茶的好处,获益匪浅。

我们在行程的第五天游览了万里长城。在爬长城之前,导游先告诉了我们爬长城要注意的事项,这样我们就不会受伤或发生意外。在我们开始爬长城时,每个人都非常兴奋,因为我们终于可以一起攀登举世闻名

的万里长城。在爬长城的时候,大家都互相鼓励,互相照顾,充分体现了互助友爱的精神。

这次行程令我难忘的,还有到北京九中交流学习,我们和伙伴们一起听课。我们发现到,每个学生在课堂上都非常积极,老师问的每一道问题,他们都会毫不犹豫地举起手来,争先恐后地抢答。反观我们,在课堂上一点都不积极,老师提问时,我们很多时候都是沉默不语,要老师再三催促,我们才勉强回答,这一点,是我们应该学习的。此外,老师们也教了我们怎么做草编。虽然一开始好多同学都遇到了困难,不了解怎么做,但经过老师的耐心指导,我们不断地尝试,终于成功编出了一只只“蚱蜢”。

通过这次的学习之旅,增进了同学之间的感情;我们也从中学到了中国的文化,了解了中国人民的生活,收获满满。非常感谢校方的精心安排,才能让这次的学习之旅画上圆满的句号。

登长城



安徽学习之旅

黄梓妍、唐嫣宁 (2G)

在科大附中交流



在美菱企业认真聆听讲解员介绍

5月21日傍晚六时，我们抵达上海浦东国际机场，开启了七天的浸濡学习之旅。我们千里迢迢地来到了异乡，兴奋的心情是难以言喻的。上海夜景迷人，凉爽的风轻轻地抚摸着每个人的脸，让我们顿时感受到新加坡和上海的气候差异。

第二天，我们乘搭高铁前往安徽合肥。坐惯了时速80公里地铁的我们，乘坐在时速250公里的高铁上时，除了兴奋，也有许多惊叹。之后，我们参观了电器界巨头—美菱电器公司，观察制作冰箱的过程，也理解了公司的管理方式与理念。之后拜访李鸿章故居，虽然只有不到原址的十二分之一，没有了当年的显赫，但古朴庄严的氛围依然保留李府独有的恢弘气势。

隔天，我们前往科大附中进行交流。那里的校园宽敞、设施完善，学校还费心地在电子布告板上热烈欢迎我们，让我们既惊讶又感动。第一次看见自己的小伙伴时，大家都有点羞涩紧张，但经过几个小时的接触后，我们不仅认识了彼此，也留下了许多美好的回忆。通过课堂交流，我发现科大附中的学生不仅学习态度积极，而且大家上课时都踊跃举手发言，这实在令我刮目相看。相对于我们平日时的扭捏、害羞，这次的体验真的让我们获益匪浅。

正所谓：“五岳归来不看山，黄山归来不看岳”，期待已久的黄山之旅终于到了。可惜天不作美，当天细雨蒙蒙，山上的风景都被蒙蒙的雾遮住了。大家穿着雨衣，步履维艰地爬上黄山。一路走走爬爬，雨水打湿了我们的鞋袜和头发。记得当时我们还时不时回头问老师：“要到了吗？”，语气中夹带着一丝丝的绝望。好不容易登上山时，虽然迎面而来的不是黄山昔日云层层层、层峦叠嶂如人间仙境的风景，但是那雾茫茫的景象给黄山增添了一种神秘感。山上空气十分清新，站在黄山顶峰，俯视山下，只见绿树成片，绿草如茵，我心想：“值了！”下山后，导游送了我们一句话：“我看黄山多雄伟，黄山看我多狼狈！”大家听了，纷纷相视而笑。这次没有见识到黄山奇景，大家都在心里默默许下心愿，希望下次再访黄山时能看到黄山奇景的真面目。

参观完歙县的两个世界文化遗产—西递和宏村后，一转眼已经到了告别的时候。这趟学习之旅，让我们成长，增添了不少知识与见闻。这七天的美好回忆将永远烙印在我们的脑海中，永不磨灭。

上海南京学习之旅

王玉欣、苏雨嫣 (2H)

2017年5月21日，我们到达了上海浦东机场，开始了我们七天的上海南京学习之旅。大家带着兴奋的心情，非常期待能在这次的旅程中收获满满。

第三天，我们到伯乐中学，受到学校师生的热情接待。我们被安排和伙伴们进行交流。他们的学习态度值得我们学习，老师提问时，他们非常自信地站起来回答，一点也不担心自己的答案不对。我问我的小伙伴她平时除了读书还会做什么。她的回答让我很吃惊。她说在中国，学生都把大量的时间花在学习上，很少有娱乐时间。她也提到，中国的教育系统的确比新加坡还要严格，只有最好的学生才有机会出国留学。这让我觉得自己很幸运能在新加坡读书。

第四天，我们参观了南京大屠杀纪念馆。它位于南京城西南江东门，是当年日军大屠杀的一处主要地点和遇难者重葬地。纪念馆门前的一尊铜像，绝望地望着天空，似

乎在控诉日军的暴行！广场上有数万个石头，这些代表着当时大屠杀的30万死难者。我看了非常难过！一进入室内，我们的心情立刻沉重起来。万人葬埋了许多骨头，我可以深刻地感受到当时南京人民的恐惧、痛苦、哀伤和愤怒。虽然我没有经历过这段历史，但我们希望南京大屠杀纪念馆留下的历史真相，能让后人谨记尊重人权，珍惜和平！

第六天，我们来到了南翔古镇。我们在那里学做小笼包。我发现小笼包并不容易制作。指导老师制作的小笼包像我们平时在餐馆吃的一样，我们制作的虽然卖相不佳，但亲手制作的小笼包还是美味可口。我们围在一起品尝自己制作的小笼包，很有成就感！

这次的学习之旅虽只有短短的一个星期，但我们基本上感受到中国的乡土人情、美食、文化。我们对中国又多了一层的了解。这对2H班的同学们是一个宝贵的经验。



到虹口区青少年活动中心学蜡染



参观光明乳业

厦门学习之旅

林孜恩、郭狄龙 (21)

采茶工的辛苦劳动，换来了我们手上那杯好茶



小学生架势十足，而我们只能滥竽充数



学习包饺子

5月的最后一个星期，21班同学飞往厦门，开始为期七天的学习之旅。

在陈嘉庚纪念馆，我们了解到成功商人陈嘉庚先生为了在新加坡和厦门建学校，不惜捐了巨款，为教育付出很多。许多人不明白他的行为。而陈嘉庚先生曾回答说：“钱由我辛苦得来，亦应由我慷慨捐去。”他的回应让我们无比佩服。

我们也到了独具特色的南安土楼。富有277年历史的40多座土楼，以迥异的风格和宏大的规模闻名于世。列入世界文化遗产当中有2座圆形和1座方形的土楼。远离市区，周围没有高楼大厦，也不喧闹繁华，有的只是朴实和热情的居民。但是当越来越多旅客慕名而来，这个原本宁静的地方也渐渐成为一个商业气息渐浓之地。我们不得不开始思考这个世界闻名的文化遗产，如何在旅游业的冲击和保留文化中取得一个平衡。

中国的文化博大精深。一个很好的例子就是富有文化特色的京剧。在新加坡，我们很少有机会欣赏传统戏曲，更别说感受它的

精髓。这次的学习之旅，我们很荣幸能向中国学生学习京剧里的一些基本功和台步。所谓：台上一分钟，台下十年功。学京剧真的不容易。这些京剧班的学生经过长期严格的训练，每一个动作都做得很到位。中国父母大都非常重视孩子的文化素养，因此都支持他们接触传统艺术。我认为传统戏曲是值得保留的文化，因为它体现了中国独特文化的精髓。

我们也有机会参观八马茶业，在那里我们体验了采茶的过程。我们发现要采到品质好的茶叶并不容易，而采茶工甚至需要在烈日灼晒下、弯腰完成自己的工作，实在是“粒粒皆辛苦”。现在，每当我们喝起中国茶时，我们就更加珍惜，因为采茶工的辛苦劳动，换来了我们手上这杯好茶！

回忆起这丰富充实的七天，我们真是获益不浅。我们发现这次的游学经历不仅带给我们知识，加强我们的思考能力，也让21班与厦门师生结下了深厚的友谊。

参观上汽大众



上海、苏州学习之旅

朱文盈、梁宇晨 (21)

2017年5月底，我们2J班来到了上海和苏州进行交流及学习。

俗话说“上有天堂下有苏杭”，苏州是一座古色古香的城市，它的特点便是“小桥、流水、人家”。放眼望去，粉墙黛瓦的屋子将“古城”这一特点展现的淋漓尽致。

我们在兰苑园学习刺绣。刺绣是中国国粹之一，技艺高超的女工用蚕吐出来的细丝编织出来的成品刺绣非常精致。将人物、山水、动物的特点展现出来，精美的山水刺绣令人陶醉，让人不得不称赞女工们行云流水的手艺。后来我们亲身体验了刺绣的过程，毕竟是新手，我们可是出尽了洋相，但是也有一些同学展现了天赋，很顺利地完成了他们的刺绣作品。

说到苏州那就不得不提当地的园林。仅仅苏州便有9座园林被列为世界文化遗产。我们班有幸参观了其中一座私家园林——网

师园。网师园的导览员领着我们在园内欣赏了许多出神入化的表演：有悠扬的古琴、余音袅袅的箫、柔美的古典舞蹈……在参观的过程中我们也了解到园林建筑的一个特点那便是“门槛”。“门槛”的高度是有讲究的，阶级越高的人，门槛也会比其他普通百姓家高出许多。

在苏州逗留了几天后，我们来到了中国最繁华的城市——上海。

为了了解上海这座城市的总体规划和未来发展，我们沿着人民广场到了上海城市规划馆。沿途，我们经过上海人民广场地铁站，发现了一片“新天地”。在地铁站的某个转角处挂着一排排的照片，还有身着旗袍的人物蜡像，昏暗的灯光使各个角落都有“老上海”的味道，让人仿佛回到了过去，只想安静地慢慢品味。经过的人都放慢了脚步，端详着挂在墙上的照片再离开。我们随后继续

往前走，到了一个出口后又看到了人民广场上那些现代化的高楼大厦。前一步我们还在眷恋于老上海的风情万种，下一步我们就不得不折服于上海作为金融中心的雄厚实力。

我们的导游提到了一些环境规划问题，如钢铁厂将逐渐迁往郊区，以减少环境污染给市民造成的不良影响。上海市政府鼓励通过多样化的方式让民众为减少废气排放量尽一份力，例如政府会给予购买绿色能源车的民众津贴，并大力推广共享单车的使用。同学们都意识到随着城市的发展，政府仍重视环境问题，并会尽量在发展和环境间找到平衡。

总的来说，很荣幸能够到苏州和上海进行浸濡。短短的一周内我们拓展了视野，从不同的角度去了解中国文化。这一趟学习之旅让我们学会了独立思考问题、换位思考，确实获益匪浅。

