



Christ Church Secondary School

# CHR Highlights

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." 1 Corinthians 16:13

Issue 1/2017

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## Principal's Message

2016 had indeed been an eventful year for all of us at CHR, External Validation (EV), External Safety Validation (ESV) and Passionata I being key events for the year. Improvement works were also carried out during the Nov/Dec holidays to make CHR a more conducive place to learn, work and play.

As we concluded our MOE External Validation in November 2016, we truly felt a sense of pride and achievement, knowing how far we have come, how much we have grown as a fraternity of educators and how much we have value-added to the lives of those under our care. As validated by the MOE EV Team, CHR "has ensured that structured approaches and processes to enhancing staff engagement and delivery of school programmes are in place. Clear directions and expectations are communicated to build a collective sense of purpose. Programmes are developed and customised for the development of students. These efforts have resulted in positive staff and student outcomes."

Moving ahead, we will be doing a re-envisioning exercise to chart the new directions from 2018 to 2022.

We thank God for each and every one who gives to CHR and makes CHR what it is today and will be.

**Mr David Lau**  
**Principal**

## School Outreach To Primary 6 Students



Last November, I was privileged to be given the opportunity to be one of the emcees for the School Outreach Programme and Open House. I felt very much empowered as I was entrusted to write my own script. This allowed me to get my creative juices flowing to write a script which could effectively send the message across to the students and also engage them. It was a challenging process but I was relieved everything went smoothly. I even conducted a quiz and gave out prizes to students.

Next, I was tasked to be the CHR ambassador for the Open House. Through my interactions with them, I could see that many of the students were awed by our '4 +1' AOP education as well as fascinated by our flying fox and rock wall facilities in school.

This experience not only instilled a strong sense of school pride in me but also built my self-confidence. I was able to interact with the visitors confidently during the Open House.

As the saying goes, 'If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail'. My involvement in this event enabled me to understand the importance of proper planning and practice. Although I was nervous at the beginning, I was able to fulfil the task assigned to me to the best of my abilities. I am proud to be in CHR and glad for the opportunity to share my pride with others.

**Roshan, 2E3**



## Sharing From Our Graduands

When I received my 'N' Level results, I was thrilled and delighted as I did not expect myself to score all Grade 1s and 2s. During my preparations for the examinations, I was thankful to have supportive teachers and classmates who helped to clarify my doubts and guided me when I needed help. My family supported and comforted me when I was too stressed up.

I was blessed to have great teachers as well as Boys' Brigade officers to guide me in my work whenever I needed help. The study sessions during Friday CCA Day were also **fundamental** in helping me to be more prepared. Despite having parade almost every Saturday, I was able to balance my CCA and studies well.

There were many distractions such as my mobile phone that threatened to sway my focus but I was **resolute** to avoid **succumbing** to temptation. Three tips I wish to share :

1. Allow your hunger for success to overcome your fear of failure
2. Act immediately once you set your goals
3. Anything is possible if you believe in yourself

### **Chan Yong Jun, 5N1**

As a message to my peers who may have average results, you may be surprised to know that it is not impossible to emerge as one of the top students in school as I am a living example. I started off as an average student but I had a dream to surpass the top student in class. I persisted in challenging myself to keep improving despite beating his score.

Consistency is the key to doing well. I made a conscious effort to revise and practise my work daily. Each day I would allocate a few topics to revise before I head to bed, which allowed me to retain most of the knowledge I have learnt throughout the years. For certain topics that I had problems with, I would consult my teachers for clarification.

My parents were my main pillar of support during the tough times and they supported me constantly throughout the years. I am also thankful to my teachers and friends for contributing to my success.

### **Espen Lee Cher Shee, 4E5 (2016)**

When I received my results slip, I felt proud of myself as I did not expect to do so well. My results were all along **mediocre** so I had a lot of difficulties at the beginning to achieve my targeted results. Despite the obstacles, I persevered and kept trying my best. With the encouragement of my teachers and friends, my results improved by **leaps and bounds**.

I would like to thank Mr Chris Yang, Ms Leow Swee Kim and Mr Desmond Chan for believing in me and staying back after school every week to coach me. To all my juniors, do not give up if you face obstacles. Continue to work hard towards your goal as nothing is impossible.

### **Gloria Chung May Yan, 4T7 (2016)**

#### **Vocabulary**

<b><i>fundamental</i></b>	: <i>forming a necessary base or core; of central importance</i>
<b><i>resolute</i></b>	: <i>admirably purposeful, determined, and unwavering</i>
<b><i>succumbing</i></b>	: <i>failing to resist pressure, temptation, or some other negative force</i>
<b><i>mediocre</i></b>	: <i>of only average quality; not very good</i>
<b><i>leaps and bounds</i></b>	: <i>by very large degrees; rapidly or in quick progress forward</i>



## Say 'Hello' to a new and vibrant CHR!

Have you ever thought to yourself, "Oh my dear, the canteen is far too noisy to study in!" Well, Mr Lau must have heard your pleas! There is now an **aesthetically** pleasing area behind the podium! From the WRAITECH Wall, to the learning spaces, our school committee is really stepping up their game! Now, you will be able to revise or do your homework in peace and quiet.

Besides that, the brand-new tables and chairs beside the pond are a welcome spot for me to do work and chill. I can clearly see the school's effort to create a more conducive environment for us. Even the addition of more green, potted plants adds to the 'zen' vibe which helps to clear my mind. I appreciate the school's efforts to create a proper environment for us to facilitate the process of learning.

**Amberlie Ng, 4E4**



On the first day of school, I was thrilled to be greeted with new learning spaces that have meaningful wall papers that **encapsulate** our school values. When I feel tired in the midst of doing revision, looking at the inspiring phrases helps to spur me on and reminds me to stay focused on my goals.



I was surprised to see new stickers at staircases that list the "9 'What' strategies for Mathematics, WRAITECH principles on various subjects and comparison on the traits between fixed and growth mindsets. These help me to remember WRAITECH strategies better as I need to apply them in my lessons. I am also encouraged to think about my goals, future and personality whenever I take the stairs.

Even the school foyer has a new landscape with more plants to **spruce up** the area, which made the environment look more inviting. I found myself going there often during my breaks to relieve my stress as it has a soothing atmosphere, especially at the water fountain area which has new seats and tables.

I am also glad that we have recognition boards near the canteen that affirm our achievements and successes. This inspires me to keep improving everyday and strive to be better. There are also photographs of events that celebrate the joyful occasions in school. New digital clocks that are placed around the school are a great gesture to not only remind us on the importance of punctuality but also to use our time wisely.

The new changes in the school have provided me with the perfect environment to do my preparation for my upcoming 'N' Levels examinations. With cosier sitting areas for quiet revision, my school has become a much more conducive environment to study in.

**Vincent Neo, 4N5**

I love the new WRAITECH walls at staircases and classrooms which is a good way to help me remember how to apply WRAITECH in my various subjects. The concept is also ingrained in my mind as I keep seeing it everywhere. These improvements have definitely made CHR a more welcoming and inviting place to learn and study in.

**Nurin, 4E1**

### Vocabulary

**aesthetically**

: in a way that gives pleasure through beauty

**encapsulate**

: express the essential features of (something) briefly and clearly

**spruce up**

: to make a place neater, smarter or more attractive





## Learning From Overseas Trips

### Strive For Excellence

As Gordon B. Hinckley says, "Do your best, and be a little better than you are."

I have grown as a bagpiper as the Pipe Band has performed in many places and we have learnt to memorise the scores in a short period of time. I understood the importance of challenging the process by constantly trying to improve myself and to strive for excellence. At the beginning, it was daunting as I had problems in sustaining my stamina on the bagpipe. However, I refused to give up and persevered in order to become a better piper.

My key takeaway for this trip is that we would need to respect everyone's opinions and culture as we are all different and we will need to accept everyone for who we are in order to create a better country and world.



**Chin Qin Jing, 4E5 (2016)**  
**Pipe Band @ Hong Kong**

### Model The Way

As the group leader, I have to model the way and be a good example to my peers. I was attentive when the teachers gave instructions and I also took the responsibility to ensure my group follow instructions closely and stay together for safety purposes. I tried to find ways to build team spirit and foster collaboration in the team. By enabling my peers to act, they were more empowered and this helped the whole team to grow together.



This trip has built my confidence in the upcoming Singapore Youth Festival as attending the choir master class has equipped me with better singing skills to hit high notes more easily. I look forward to striving for excellence in all my future performances.

**K. Poojah, 2E3**  
**Choir Trip @ Hong Kong**

### Self-discipline

I was thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in this trip as I looked forward to picking up more knowledge and skills on basketball from the visit to the Malaysian Sports School.

After interacting with the basketball players in the Sports School, I was impressed with their unwavering discipline and tough training schedule. This inspired me to persevere more in the face of hardship. Their training sessions are much tougher than ours so we should not complain even when times are difficult. They are a good example to remind me that it is possible to balance my time between my studies and CCA well as long as I am disciplined and focused.

During the trip, I had to partner with a junior team member and guide her throughout the trip. I tried to keep a look out for her safety and welfare. Through this, I learnt to be more responsible and caring by putting others above myself. I also learnt to be more self-disciplined by managing my time between my studies and CCA well.

This enriching trip has not only left me with indelible memories, but also important values such as responsibility and discipline that will help me grow to be a better individual.

**Mildred, 3E1**  
**Basketball @ Kuala Lumpur**



## CHR Passionata



During the concert last year, I was honoured to be given the opportunity to be the stage manager, script-writer and assistant director for the concert.

In order to work on the script, my team and I had to stay back after school to share ideas on how to improve our work. We had to work on different parts of the script so this trained my sense of responsibility as I needed to ensure my script could be completed on time. When my script had to be shortened in order to suit the production, I was naturally upset but I reminded myself to remain **level-headed** and look at the bigger picture. If I had insisted on sticking to the original script, the production might be delayed and this would affect everyone. Thus, I decided to remain cool about it and kept calm.

As the assistant director, I ensured everyone worked as a team to **leverage** on the various ideas we had in order to put up a good performance. Being the stage manager, I had to assist the performers with their costume changes and prepare the props to be used accordingly. I also needed to cue the performers and ensure they knew when it was their turn to go onto the stage.

I also have a heightened sense of my own strengths and weaknesses. My strength is that I am ambitious in striving to put in my best and looking out for my teammates. My weakness is that I can be too sensitive and too dependent on others. I saw how sometimes stress can negatively impact people and how different people act under it. I also learnt that when one is too fixated or **adamant** about something, one may miss out on others' inputs.

Participating in this concert was an enriching experience as I was able to experience how a show is run, as well as observe the creative forces behind it. The **camaraderie** formed through working together and bonding with friends from other CCAs was unexpected and I will cherish these memories for a lifetime. I hope that in future when there is a concert, I will see more students experimenting with various artistic ideas and collaborate with one another to put up their very own production.

**Ghrekah Prith Kaur D/O JS, 4E1**



### Vocabulary

<b>level-headed</b>	: calm and sensible
<b>leverage</b>	: use (something) to maximum advantage
<b>adamant</b>	: refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind
<b>camaraderie</b>	: mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together





## New Year Resolutions



**Danny Ng,  
2E4**

My resolution for the new year is to achieve a good balance between my studies and soccer which is my CCA. My dream is to be the next Sergio Ramos, a professional football player.

I will work hard towards being the architect of my life and achieving my dreams.



**Affif, 4N6**

I am aiming to do well for my 'N' Levels this year for a passport to pursue my dreams in Art.

My dream is to earn a lot of money so that I can travel the world and get inspiration for my art work.



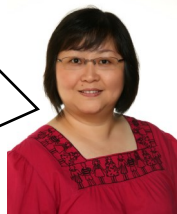
**Maishurah,  
4N6**

I am striving to achieve excellent results for my 'N' Levels this year so that I can prove to my mother that I am capable of excelling in my studies while pursuing my passion in dance.

I will like to be a professional dance instructor in future.

The biggest barrier that prevents people from reaching their goals is the desire to relax and do something fun instead of working hard. My advice to all students is to put in your best effort at all times in order to keep up with the pace of work before it is too late.

I would like to wish everyone success in achieving your goals for 2017!



**Mdm Betty Koh  
MA Senior Tr**



**Mdm Zahara  
ML Tr**

I resolve to have a future of good health. As such, recently I have picked up a regular exercise routine and started watching my food intake more closely.

If I adopt an active and healthy lifestyle, I will be healthier and happier.



**Miss Jenifer  
F & N Tr**

It's a brand new year, a brand new beginning. This year, I vow to cherish the relationships that I have, for I learnt that human connections are crucial for our development as an individual.

I also wish to deepen my relationship with my Creator, as He has blessed me and guided me through every chapter of my life.

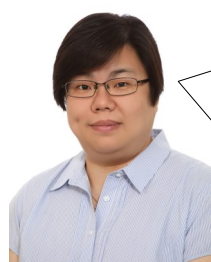
Assuming the role of Secondary One Assistant Level Coordinator, I aim to touch base with all Secondary One students by knowing all their names. Doing up a one-year plan for 2017 allows me to be more forward-looking in planning ahead and anticipating any issue before it happens.

To be constantly challenged by choice also encourages me to take more ownership and make differences within my means, even if it means one student at a time.



**Mr Chiu Xin  
Yan  
MA & Sci Tr**

## OUR NEW STAFF



**Mdm Lai Meei Ju  
HOD/MTL**

I thank God for the opportunity to work in a mission school. CHR is a vibrant school with friendly, helpful colleagues and adorable students. I look forward to working with this big family to scale more peaks of excellence.



**Miss Siti  
Aisyah  
Art  
Teacher**

As a teacher, I am constantly looking for more effective ways to teach and learn. With supportive colleagues and warm-hearted students, I anticipate a good start in school together with the CHR family.

I feel blessed to be a part of the teaching fraternity and look forward to enriching experiences in CHR.

I feel great to join the CHR family. The students here are enthusiastic and the colleagues are warm-hearted. I am looking forward to working with all to strive for greater heights together.



**Mr Hang Kam Long  
ST/MTL**

I enjoy seeing to the various needs of my students such as academic and social emotional well-being. I consider teaching Tamil language and cultural values in a creative way to excite students as my passion.

I look forward to a fruitful and exciting new journey in CHR!



**Mdm Sithrangi  
Elangovan  
Tamil Tr**



**Mr Eugene Teo  
SH/Science**

I am delighted to be back after 2 years. Interacting with our students and teachers, and inspiring them to achieve greater things are what I hope to do in my stint in CHR.





# Congratulations!

The theme for CHR 2016 **"Giving Thanks: Appreciate Each Family"** builds on the 2014 theme **"Giving Thanks: Appreciate Each Day"**.

It focuses on developing gratitude in our students at school as the people around them are pivotal in their life journey. Each student interacts with his/her classmates, peers and staff of CHR almost daily. When CHRians learn to give thanks for their friendship and support, as well as demonstrate our RICPF values, it will bring joy and hope to their lives.



**Ms Sheereen Loke with her groom**



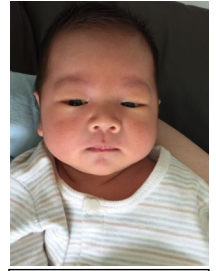
**Ms Aqidah with her groom!**



**Ms Low Yi Lun with her groom!**



**Mr Khairul with his bride!**



**Mr Francis's newborn prince!**

I am thankful to Ms Yushiella for her constant attention and guidance to help me adjust quickly to my new school environment. She is always enthusiastic about what she does and takes time to check that all of us are coping well.

I will strongly recommend my younger friends to choose my school when they reach Secondary One.



**Insyirah, 1E1**

Thanks to the orientation programme, I have eased into the new Secondary One life in CHR. I had fun knowing more friends and teachers during the orientation.

I would like to thank my seniors for helping us to ease into our new environment easily.



**Martin, 1E2**

I always had this thought that it would be difficult to adapt to the surroundings in Secondary School especially in the area of studies. However, my perspective changed. I was comfortable in CHR and I realised that everyone treats one another like a family.



**Georgia Forbe, 1E3**

I would like to give my biggest thanks to those who conducted activities for us on the first day of school. The teachers were very approachable. It wasn't really a challenge to make friends because everyone was very open and friendly. CHR is not only a school but also our second home.

In my opinion, CHR is a school where everybody will look forward to coming everyday! The moment I entered CHR, I have kind form teachers who prepared us well on what to expect.

From the administrative staff in the General Office who are always patient and kind towards me to the hardworking cleaners, I know that I can look forward to studying in a caring and heart-warming environment!



**Eng Yi Xuan, 1E4**

I am thankful to my teachers, especially Ms Naomi Sum and Ms Chan for always being there for us whenever we have problems. My classmates are great and I already have good friends.



**Joyce, 1N5**

The canteen vendors are polite and kind while the office administrative staff are helpful and friendly. This helped me to adapt to the new environment very quickly. CHR really makes me feel at home and I am glad to be part of the family.

Mr David Lau, the Principal, was the first person who welcomed me to CHR and said "Welcome to the CHR family!" This makes me feel that CHR is like my second home and that I am being cared for.

I am also thankful to Mr Denis Koh who is a very fair and caring Discipline Master. During his briefing to all students, he made me feel that he is very approachable.



**Amirul, 1N6**

I adapted to CHR very quickly as through the orientation, I made many friends and also familiarised myself with the environment in no time.

I would like to thank my teachers and the student councillors for organising fun activities at the orientation.



**Amelia Chong, 1T7**







## Exposure to Real-World Experiences Through Work Attachment & Visit to RP

This work experience attachment (WEP) at a childcare centre enabled me to appreciate education more when I saw the enthusiasm of the students and their eagerness to learn. Not only did I gain more knowledge on how to help develop a young child's mental capacity and their physical development, I also learnt the importance of care and patience.



Being in the childcare centre has given me a great perspective on the amount of effort which has been put in by the teachers to deliver the daily lessons. This helps me to understand the job of a childcare teacher is truly not an easy but arduous task and that I need to be mentally prepared for the demands of the job if I would ever consider teaching as a career.

### Thea Sin, 4E1

As a Science student, I am thankful that this work experience programme had given me exposure to the arts. I chose to be attached to an interior design firm and was tasked to design a simple house through the use of a design software called 'sketch-up'. Through this experience, I learnt to listen to others' opinions and to keep improving on the designs. I discovered that the job of an interior designer is quite challenging as competition is stiff so there is a constant need to be innovative in the designs in order to win more customers.

I learnt the importance of perseverance by not giving up when customers reject designs. Self-discipline is also important in order to be focused on completing an assigned task within the stipulated deadline. I am glad that my school values (Responsibility, Integrity, Care, Perseverance and Forward-Looking) will stand me in good stead when I embark in the working world in future.

### Nur Syafiqah Jumali, 4E2



I was thrilled to be given the opportunity to visit Republic Polytechnic (RP) School Of Engineering to attend a workshop on nanotechnology last November. I hope to explore more about the world of Science and Technology through this experience as I am still uncertain about my future career path.

There were various hands-on activities but my favourite was the experiment using invisible ink to write on the mirror. It was amazing that when we breathed onto the mirror, the words which we had written would slowly manifest.



I was totally bowled over by the visit to the laboratory as the machines were very fascinating and were usually used in places like hospitals. We had to wear protective gear to prevent cross-contamination. This workshop has triggered my interest in Physics and I hope to be able to participate in more Science-related activities.

### Shameem, 2E3

