



# ISSUE ONE 2019

Christ Church Secondary School

# CHR HIGHLIGHTS



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## Principal's Message

Happy 2019! A busy and fruitful 2018 has come to an end and another exciting year lies ahead. We welcome our latest batch of Secondary One students at Christ Church Secondary School. It's the beginning of Term One, and they are already immersed in Chingay practice. CHR has been actively involved in the Chingay Parade since 2011 with our cohort of Secondary One students partnering the People's Association Youth Movement (PAYM) each year. The Chingay Parade is a National event which brings out the dynamism of Singapore's multicultural and vibrant society. We believe that the success of our multiculturalism in Singapore should not be taken for granted; instead we should engage our students to reflect and give thanks for where we are now.



While our students continue to do well academically as evidenced by the latest GCE "N" and "O" level results, we strongly feel that there is much more to life and school. I hope that CHRians will continue to cherish our unique AOP Education – one that has been carefully crafted to cater to their holistic needs; one that enables them to challenge themselves, build their dreams and grow as unique individuals who are anchored on the values of Curiosity, Compassion and Courage.

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

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Nov '18

Jan '19

Feb '19



1  
RIVERSIDE  
IMMERSION  
PROGRAMME



2  
OPEN  
HOUSE



3  
ORIENTATION  
WEEK



4  
SEC 4  
RESILIENCE  
CAMP



5  
CNY



6  
VISIT BY  
SHIJIAZHANG NO.  
44 MIDDLE SCHOOL



7  
TOTAL  
DEFENCE  
DAY



8  
SEC 1  
CHINGAY

Snippets  
of Life

IN CHR



CHRians HAVE THE DRIVE TO EXCEL, ARE THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTORS AND ACTIVE LEARNERS  
**COURAGE . COMPASSION . CURIOSITY**

## BATAM COMMUNITY EYE-CARE:

*Gift-a-sight!*



"Thank you for the pair of spectacles! Now, I do not have to squint my eyes whenever I read the newspapers!" Xingwen, a representative of the National Civil Defence Cadet Corps, was greeted by an elated Auntie Norita who turned up for the free eye screening programme.

From 13 to 16 November 2018, a group of 39 students and 10 staff from CHR participated in the Community Eye Care (CEC) Project in Batam, Indonesia. Together with trained optometrists from Singapore and Indonesia, the CHR team dispensed suitable spectacles to 843 Batam residents during the four-day project.

"The highlight was seeing the locals beam with happiness and gratitude. Some of them told me it was their first pair of spectacles, so it meant a lot to them. Seeing how our contributions have impacted someone's life filled me with a sense of humility."

**JOLENE LAI BOH YAN (4/4), a member of the Girls' Brigade**

"Every little action counts and meaningful projects like this brighten up someone's day."

**YONG JIA LE (4/3), a member of the National Police Cadet Corps**

A snaking queue formed before the programme began for the day, but the residents remained undeterred and chatted with each other heartily. It was worth the wait, for their new spectacles have given them a new lease of life!

## ANGEL TREE PROJECT:

*Sending a little love from the CHR family*



MILO sachets. A tin of coffee powder. A bottle of light soy sauce.

These were some of the various items packed into hampers meant for the families of the incarcerated, as part of the Angel Tree Hamper Project initiated by Prison Fellowship Singapore (PFS).

As a partner of PFS, a group of CHRians and teachers took time off during the November holidays to pack the hamper items into large tote bags. It is our wish that the hampers, along with written letters by the inmates, bring hope and joy to them and their loved ones.

"I give thanks for the teachers' patience, kindness and care for us. We were well-supported during the packing process!"

**MOHAMMED RASUL BIN SANDY SUWARMAN (4/7)**

"The hampers represent the inmates' sincerity and I am glad to be part of it!"

**ALFONSO REYES SINCIOCO JR (3/3)**

“

We are thankful for the wonderful support from the locals, and successful collaboration with our partners: SMP Negeri 25, community leaders in Batam and optometrists from both Singapore and Batam.

**MR EUGENE TEO**  
Teacher I/C of CEC

”

*Thank you, CHR!*

Thank you CHR Family for being part of this meaningful project! If you have any spectacles or reading glasses that are still in good condition, please donate them to Mrs Shaun Lee for CEC Project 2019!

“

It was a sight to behold as we witnessed how CHR students and teachers came together for a greater purpose. These youths displayed a spirit of excellence, in the way they carried themselves, treated one another and carried out the work.

**PRISON  
FELLOWSHIP  
SINGAPORE**

”



CHRians HAVE THE DRIVE TO EXCEL, ARE THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTORS AND ACTIVE LEARNERS  
**COURAGE . COMPASSION . CURIOSITY**

## EDUCATION CAREER GUIDANCE (ECG):

### *Work Attachment*

Education and Career Guidance (ECG) aims to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills and values to make informed decisions at each stage of education. It ensures a successful transition from school to further education or work so that they can manage their career pathways and lifelong learning.

At CHR, our Secondary 3 students explore various career opportunities and pathways available across different industries at the end of the year. Here are their stories to share:

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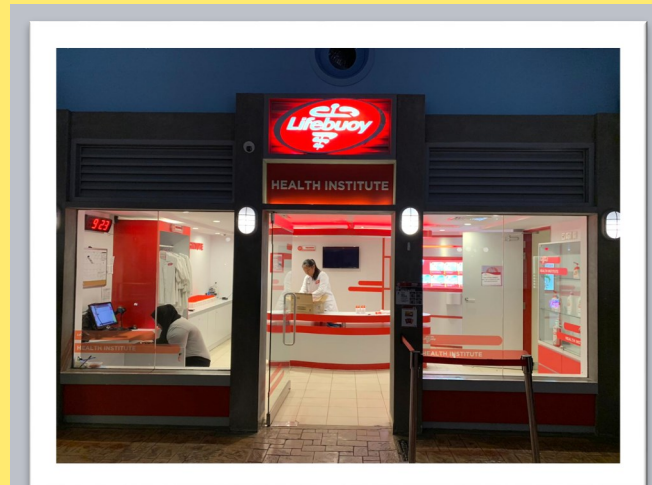
Last December, I signed up for a work attachment at an interior design company as I was interested to find out what it takes to be an interior designer. I was most inspired by their dedication and passion as they had to make a lot of sacrifices in order to succeed in their job. For example, some projects can take months or even a year to complete. An interior designer must be diligent, patient and creative in coming up with innovative designs to solve problems for their clients. To excel in the job, the designer has to explore various possibilities and think out of the box to please his client and meet their needs.

During the attachment, I picked up a 3D Modelling Software called Google SketchUp and used it to create 3D models of an apartment. I realised that I learnt fairly quickly, but I was not as creative as others. When I was asked to propose aesthetically pleasing designs, I found myself stumped for ideas. This was when I realised the job might not be my cup of tea. Nevertheless, this experience helped me see interior designers in a different light. I am full of respect for them after finding out the hard work they put in behind the scenes to design beautiful homes for others.

**SHAFIQA NURUTAMY SHAMSUDDIN (4/1)**

”

*Together with our mentor at an interior design firm*



*Stock-taking at the workstation in KidsZania*

“

I have always wanted to work in an industry which involves interacting with young children. Therefore, when the chance for a work attachment at KidsZania sprung up, I jumped at it. I have always thought that having passion for working with young children is enough but little did I know that it took a lot of courage and patience to fully commit to the work. It was not simply about one's capabilities but also the need for grit to persist and produce quality work despite being extremely fatigued. This experience has given me an insight into the qualities I need to possess and work on if I want to pursue a career related to working with young children.

Through this short stint, I became more aware of my strength in being able to work well with others. I also realised that I am much more capable than I thought I was and that I simply needed to build the necessary confidence to achieve anything I set out to do. I also picked up hands-on skills on how to think fast and come up with various ideas to engage young children. The whole experience had been fruitful and inspired me to consider different paths for my future career.

**GABRIELLA NAJWA RAFALINA (4/1)**

”





*What did we do?*

#### **Cultural Appreciation:**

Exchange with Boonwattana School, Korat (Learned Thai Musical Instrument & Thai Dance), Food Carving Workshop & Siam Niramit Musical Show

#### **Historical sites:**

Visited Korat City Old Town Gate, Phimai Historical Park & Bangkok Art & Cultural Centre

“

**The highlight of my experience was the Siam Niramit Show. The show was breath-taking and almost surreal. I was totally absorbed in watching the performance which consists of various genres of dance, drama, comedy and musical. The level of perfection in their performance was mind-blowing. I enjoyed myself thoroughly at the show.**

”

**RHAMS ANNASALAM**  
(3/1)

## **CULTURAL ARTS IMMERSION TRIP:** *Korat & Bangkok, Thailand*



A group of 20 Performing Arts students and 5 teachers went on a five-day, four-night cultural immersion trip to Korat and Bangkok, Thailand last November and immersed themselves in an array of cultural activities, learning about the rich history and culture of the country. The highlight of the trip was an exchange programme to Boonwattana School and the group received a warm welcome from the faculty and students of the school.

“I was astounded by the enormity of the school campus; they even had a temple in the compound. The Thai students hold their teachers in high regard and I feel that we should emulate such practices. They also practise meditation during morning assembly which helps them to relax. I wished I had tried harder to learn their language to build better rapport with them. I hope for another opportunity to visit them again.”

**RHAMS ANNASALAM (3/1)**

“My host introduced me to their traditional cuisine and explained how their cultural festival ‘Loy Krathong’ came about. ‘Loy Krathong’ is celebrated nationwide where the locals release lotus-shaped baskets, decorated with candles and flowers onto the rivers to pay their respects to the water goddess.”

**VIGNESHWARI SELVA (4/1)**

## **BASKETBALL TRIP:** *Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

“Last October, I joined the School Basketball Team on a trip to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. What made the trip fruitful was how we encouraged one another to improve. Despite not winning, we did not throw in the towel and kept our team spirit strong. We took on opportunities with renewed hope and faith each time that we would win. By persisting and persevering, we grew stronger in our defence and made fewer mistakes. This attitude also helped us inch closer to our goal of winning.

Our opponents made us realise our weaknesses in a different light. While our opponents were strong, we also learnt not to repeat the mistakes they made. This spirit of learning from one another and aspiring to be better than what we are now was something I took away from the trip.”

**HARIHAARAN PARATHY (2/4)**



“I spent a great deal of time observing what our opponents did - I saw how they swung the ball continuously and communicated with their team members concurrently. I thought it was a good strategy my team can adopt.”

**LIM HONG SHENG, JAYDEN (3/1)**

“What left a deep impression on me was the seamless communication between the members of our opponent team. They have better stamina than us so they could move faster. I am inspired by them that my current aim now is to improve my stamina, as well as collaborate with my teammates to improve the way we communicate.”

**MAYURI LALIQU MOHAN (2/6)**



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**COURAGE . COMPASSION . CURIOSITY**

# Fabula Vitae

Dear readers

We are exhilarated to introduce the first issue of 'Fabula Vitae', a section written by our newly formed student journalism committee, 'Les Literato'. 'Fabula Vitae' means 'The Story of Life' and 'Les Literato', 'The Storytellers' in Latin. Fabula Vitae is aimed at providing young CHRians with a platform for expressing their views and also develop a culture of creativity. We hope you will enjoy reading the revamped CHR Highlights.

Cheers  
Les Literato

**Editorial Committee:** Isaiah Yip (4/1), Dillon Chua (2/2), Jaden Tan (2/2), Vinathi Naidu (2/3), Alisa Adriana Rohim (2/4), Foon Cairo (2/4), Hannah Qiting Ikaram (2/4), Jolin Chai (2/4), Steffi Wong (2/4), Camille Blanche (2/4), Sarah Ng (2/4), Kristin Ong (2/4)



## CAPTION IT!

By Hannah Qiting Ikram (2/4)

## THE ENTERTAINMENT ARENA IN TREND

By Sarah Ng & Alisa Adrianna from 2/4

### Trending Music

'Bury a friend' by Billie Eilish has gained over 215 million streams on Spotify within days it was released. While many were excited for the song release, others were coming up with conspiracy theories. Eilish has written the song from the perspective of the monster under her bed. She opens us up to the view of the creature, what it is doing or feeling. Interestingly, listeners realise the monster under her bed actually symbolises the demon within us, proving that our worst enemy is ourselves when we let our fears overcome us. What does 'Bury a friend' signify to you?



### Trending in Kpop



Ever heard of the song "My Pace"? If you have been active on YouTube or Spotify, you would have already heard of this song. This popular song was written and released by the recently debuted KPOP group "Stray Kids". In fact, they write all their songs. Despite their young age and lack of experience in the industry, they have been successful in the past year. These young stars are highly underrated and talented! Do make sure to check them out over the March break!

### Trending in the Cinema

An amazing piece of news for Marvel fans is the new Marvel movie. I'm sure you'll love what I am going to mention! "Spider-Man Far from Homes" trailer was released on 15 January 2019 and when it did, it definitely shook the entire world. Everyone on social media was excited over the sudden release of the trailer, and the main actor Tom Holland was no exception. Who would have thought that the world could become fanatical over a movie trailer? Fret not, nothing you are about to read contains any spoilers unless you haven't seen the trailer! The movie takes place in Europe. Peter Parker's European vacation takes an unexpected turn when Nick Fury appears in his hotel room. Parker's Spider-Man mode takes over as he helps Fury stop Mysterio from wreaking havoc. The movie screens 5th July! Do put it on your list of things to do this year!

#### What is it?

Come up with an interesting caption for the photograph featured in every issue. The best few captions for the photograph above will be featured in the next issue of CHR Highlights!



© : Steffi Wong (2/4)

#### How do I submit a response?

3 Simple Steps!!

- 1) Visit our Instagram page @fabula.vitae
- 2) Find the picture
- 3) Submit your caption by Friday, 12 April 2019 (Please include your name and class)

#### INSTAGRAM LINK:

<https://www.instagram.com/fabula.vitae/?hl=en>



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## CHRIAN OF THE TERM: MR FRANCIS SEAH

By Jolin Chai (2/4) & Vinathi Naidu (2/3)



You may have seen Mr Francis Seah around school, especially at the back gate in the mornings. If you know Mr Francis personally, you may have an impression of him as a stoic person. We got a chance to get up close to him and found out, to our surprise, that he likes to dance! Describing himself as easy-going, grateful and ambitious, Mr Francis also shared that he loves travelling.

### What is your favourite colour?

My favourite colour is dark blue. It's the easiest colour to maintain since I do not like to spend too much time thinking about what to wear.

### What is your motto in life?

"Never give up trying." We may not always get what we want in life immediately. I believe that we ultimately can get what we want as long as we don't give up.

### Do you have a bucket list? Share with us about some things that are still left in your bucket list.

I don't really have a bucket list, but I would like to travel to more exotic places or take a tour around Europe when I get the time.

### What you do to destress?

After a stressful day, I like to watch comedy movies or listen to songs. Occasionally if I am not too tired, I will go for a jog.

### If you could have a pet, what would you want?

Maybe a Shih Tzu because it's very cute.

### Give us are three words that best describe your personality.

Easy-going, grateful and ambitious. I feel that there must be something that you look forward to everyday. If you live a mundane life, it will become quite meaningless, so we must find something we want to do at every stage and challenge ourselves. Once we reach that stage we look for the next challenge and we keep going on.

*If you would like to connect with Mr Francis on social media, he has an Instagram account. However, he has indicated that he isn't very active on social media and only uses his account to communicate with his NCDCC members.*

## CCA OF THE TERM: BADMINTON

By Camille Blanche (2/4)

I have always been intrigued about CCAs and what goes on behind the scenes, be it the training for a match or rehearsals for the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation, or simply what each CCA does when everyone reports for CCA after morning assembly every Friday.

What caught my eye this term is Badminton Club. It is their collegiality and sportsmanship that fascinated me. I had frequently seen badminton members going for competitions to represent the school. My heart warms up whenever these members come together before and after a match with smiles on their faces and hands on each other's backs. The phrase "jiayou", an encouraging word in Mandarin, is always exchanged. Even when they do not win, they show each other genuine support.

I spoke to some members to find out more about their CCA sessions. When the members assemble, they straightaway start a good warm up, which includes aerobics. Following that, the coach will give them a set of instructions. They then carry out their drills. Like most members, Hannah from 2E4 said, "Badminton is my passion. In fact, all the members are very passionate and also determined to keep improving and soaring to greater heights." It is this attitude that brought them to the second stage of the competition.

*It's February*

By Sean Pang (2/6)

It's February.

There a Christmas tree,  
in the field across the way

The strength of shoulders

on the back of the chair

your yesterday's shirt

in the corner of my bedroom,

new and fresh.

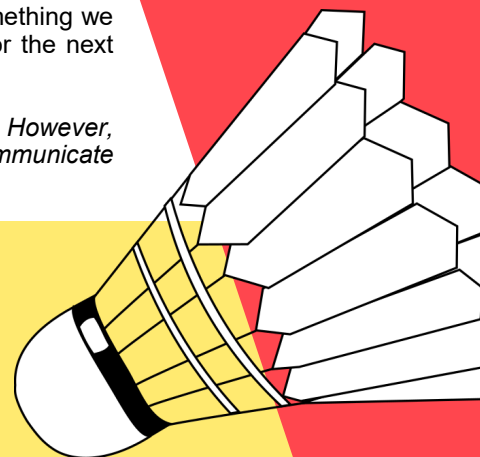
It was not there before.

And in the dim light,

my old mirror

shows my face

young.



CHRIANS HAVE THE DRIVE TO EXCEL, ARE THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTORS AND ACTIVE LEARNERS

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## UNSUNG HEROES

By Isaiah Yip (4/1)

In Christ Church, we are often reassured by the presence of the teachers and school counsellors who extend a helping hand or listen to our problems when we are stressed. One of the unsung heroes is Mr Hisham, the school Security Officer, or more accurately, the students' unofficial counsellor and 'provider of green slips'. Although often seen sitting at his brown desk and casually listening to the radio, he is on constant alert to respond to a problem or situation that needs his attention. Oftentimes, we do not get to find out more about the people around us. Thus, I popped by his desk one day after school and asked him a couple of questions, to get to know more about his life.

### How long have you been in this field?

Roughly for about 4 years now.

### What are your working hours like?

7am to 7pm.

### Actually, I see you in school pretty early. How do you get to work everyday?

I ride my bicycle to school from 888 plaza, as it not only saves money but also serves as a form of exercise.

### What do you enjoy about being a Security Officer?

One benefit is the opportunity to interact with different kinds of people, be it students, teachers or other school staff. Also, every day is a different day; no one day is the same as the next.

### What are some of the most difficult challenges that you face?

Usually unhappy parents who lash out their anger at me. As I am on the front line, I get a first taste of any momentary emotions that may arise at a certain situation. At times, I have to deal with the stray dogs that enter the school compound.

### How do you entertain yourself when you don't have a call to answer to?

I would talk to students who drop and sit with me to have a small chit chat session - it's similar to a counselling session! I help them when they are in need, be it with their school homework or just talk about their lives.

### What is one thing that keeps you going in this job?

The people in Christ Church, especially the students.

### What do you do when you are not at work?

Once I get home, I just sit back and watch my Korean dramas. And eat, of course, though I shouldn't be eating so much these days; Kind of getting fat (laughs while pointing at his belly).

### Do you plan to continue being a Security Officer for a long time?

Well, the future is unpredictable; I really can't tell at this moment.

From my conversation with Mr Hisham, I realised that his job is not easy. They play such important role, yet, like the saying 'the smallest things go unnoticed', we often do not pay attention to what they do for us. We should start a culture of appreciating people from all walks of life who make the larger part of the society through the crucial roles they play. A simple 'hello' will certainly make all the difference to them! Thank you, Mr Hisham and Mr William, for ensuring our safety!

## How CHRians See It

By Steffi Wong (2/4)

& Dillon Chua (2/2)

We asked many CHRians on which fictional characters they want to be. Here are some of the most interesting responses:

*Superman; he has only one weakness. (Mr Eugene)*

*A whale with legs. (Norris, 2/3)*

*Elsa, because I'm a queen. (Elyse, 3/2)*

*Pikachu, because I'll be able to zap people. (Fadtris, 3/3)*

*Doraemon as he has only one weakness. (Maple, 3/5)*

*Captain America — he is a strong leader. (Tamilshwaran, 3/7)*

*Spongebob. He's happy & makes krabby patties. (Mardiya, 4/2)*

*Cookie monster, because I love cookies. (Shana, 4/2)*

*My father because he has been my hero from birth. (Raj, 4/1)*

## THE PICTURE SPEAKS

By Jaden Tan



*The statuesque wall with a splash of attractive colours seems so beautiful and tempting, beckoning the lionhearted to dare themselves to take on the challenge of sport climbing. Before ascending, one has to first learn how to belay - variety of techniques on tying knots. With their classmates cheering them on, Dillon and Alvin from 2E2 rose to the challenge and succeeded!*



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# GIVING THANKS

Appreciate  
Each  
Family

*Our  
new  
staff*



**MR VICTOR ONG**  
Vice-Principal

"I am very excited to join the CHR family and to journey with everyone with God as the Enabler. I feel very privileged to be able to co-create a culture that defines a CHRian — one who is passionate about learning, sincere in service and strive to excel. I believe in empowering the students with my teachers, so that they can manage for themselves the little things in life such as personal bearing, punctuality and good manners before they can be self-directed learners with a passion for life and for service to the community."



**MR LIM YANG CHERNG**  
HOD/ICT  
Math & Physics

"There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs."  
"I'm thankful for the warm welcome given to me by both teachers and students. I'm looking forward to working and learning together. We will "walk the stairs" and reach greater heights together."



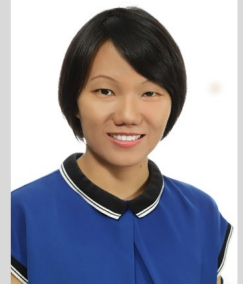
**MS ZHOU YUXI**  
Teacher  
EL & Geography

"My experience so far in CHR has been a very positive one — friendly colleagues and cheerful students. In 2019, I hope to grow and learn with everyone and do my part to add synergy to our CHR family!"



**MR GOH JOO LENG**  
Teacher  
D&T & CPA

"Before stepping into teaching, I had brought the mindset of sharing my knowledge, skills and experience with the students. After teaching for some time, I expanded my mindset to learn from them. Students are my mirror, reflecting my strengths and weaknesses on how I communicate and behave. I strongly believe my teaching will be more meaningful and fruitful to the students."



**MS LAI LIMING**  
Teacher  
Art

"I am touched by the warmth and care of the CHR family. My colleagues have been very helpful and friendly. CHR students are also appreciative of the efforts the teachers have put in. I will do my best to engage the students and stretch their potential towards learning, be it in school or beyond."



**MS MELISSA KAM**  
Teacher  
FCE

"I am thankful for all the wonderful colleagues and students whom I have met in CHR. I look forward to a fruitful journey with CHR and to contribute whenever I can to this family."

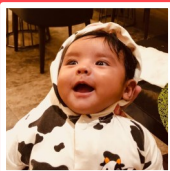


**MS JACQUELINE CHYE**  
Teacher  
Math & Chemistry

"Being in CHR is like a breath of fresh air. I am so excited to be part of this CHR family where both staff and students are warm, friendly and are given opportunities to grow and learn together."

*Congrats!*

Congrats to Mdm Palai, Mr Benjamin Yuan  
& Ms Jannah on their newborn princesses!  
(From left to right)



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