

# XINMINSS NEWSLETTER

Diving deeper into the Xinmin Experience



@xinminss



Xinmin Secondary School  
Leading Hearts, Leading Minds

Term 2 2024



## #ICYMI



## 2024 SPEECH DAY - BLUEPRINTS OF BRILLIANCE: CULTIVATING A DISCIPLINED MIND FOR THE FUTURE

On 28 March, Xinmin Secondary School convened with parents and alumni to honour the exceptional achievements of our students. The awards served as a tribute to the unwavering dedication, intellectual agility, and co-curricular excellence exhibited by both our alumni and current students. The afternoon unfolded with prize-giving and captivating cultural performances. Our hearts swelled with pride as familiar names were announced and deserving students received accolades. Teachers, parents, and students alike shared in the jubilation, celebrating not just individual accomplishments but also the cohesive spirit of community and collaboration that defines our school.



During her speech, Ms. Hoh Ying Min, our valedictorian and recipient of the L.E.A.D Award, delved into the meaning of the phrase, 'Good Luck'. She remarked that, "We must strive to ensure that we ourselves need to be GOOD enough such that when opportunities knock on our doors, we may seize and transform them into LUCK. Thereby, propelling us to new heights." This thought-provoking perspective exhorts all students to reflect on their attitudes, preparations, and endeavours while embracing the concept of luck in their lives.



## 2024 Special Award Winners

### L.E.A.D AWARD and Valedictorian

**Chew Peng Leng Scholarship (Male)**

**Chew Peng Leng Scholarship (Female)**

**Chew Peng Leng Award for Exemplary Service**

**Yap Fun Hong Award for Sports and Outdoor Education (Male)**

**Yap Fun Hong Award for Sports and Outdoor Education (Female)**

**Heng Chin Soo Award for Visual, Creative and Performing Arts**

**Tung Sey Yew Award for Leadership in the Uniformed Groups**

**- HOH YING MIN (401)**

**- NG YI YANG, JOASH (409)**

**- AVELYNNG NG RUI EN (408)**

**- ARISSA BINTE AMINUDDIN (405)**

**- TEO KAI JIE DAVION (402)**

**- ANNE WONG WAI YEE (404)**

**- ZHAO JIA FU JASPER (402)**

**- LOW LEE WEE (402)**



## JOURNEYING THROUGH NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES



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This year's National School Games commenced with the Oath Taking Ceremony, led by the Captains of the respective Sports CCAs. Standing in solidarity, the entire team, including its members, stood with reverence as they took the pledge in front of their peers, committing to embody the values of dedication and respect as sportsmen and women. With this symbolic gesture heralding the start of a new tradition, Xinmin's journey through NSG 2024 was officially underway.

As the excitement of the NSG games mounted on, one of the earliest highlights was the North Zone Volleyball Girls' and Boys' finals. Enthusiastically, the entire Sec 3 Cohort made their way to Our Tampines Hub to witness the thrilling matches. With unwavering dedication, supporters cheered on their volleyball athletes as they fiercely competed against their opponents in the finals.

As the B Division NSG games draw to a close with the Cross Country Race on May 14th, we joyously commemorate the unwavering efforts and dedication exhibited by our senior athletes. Two of our key achievements are the Boys Shooting National Champion and Boys Volleyball 2nd Runner-up position. As we bid farewell to one chapter, in Term 3, we eagerly anticipate embarking on a new journey with our C Division athletes as they kick off their own NSG games.



## CURRENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- B Div Badminton Girls National - Top 8
- B Div Shooting Boys National - Champions
- B Div Volleyball Boys National - 3rd
- B Div Volleyball Girls National - Top 8



CATCH THE NSG BEAT  
WITH OUR FLOORBALL  
BOYS!

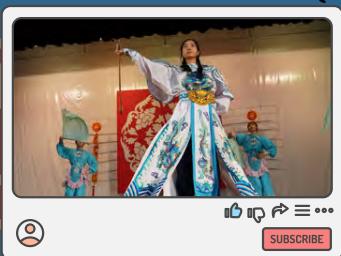
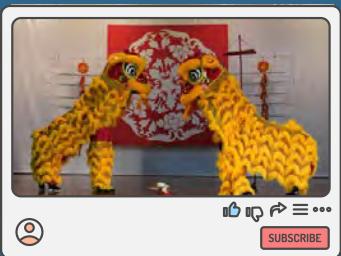
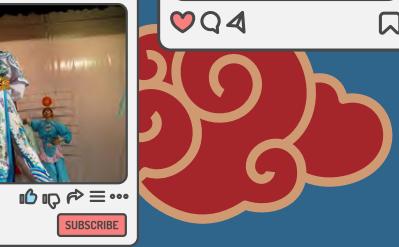


## CULTURAL EVENTS

### Chinese New Year Celebrations

For the second consecutive year, Xinmin students participated in spreading joy to our neighbours by delivering oranges and heartfelt cards adorned with messages of well-wishes as part of the CNY celebrations.

Similar to last year, we covered a total of **54** blocks with **4233** units. It was heartening to witness the residents' smiles as our students graciously presented them with oranges and cards, spreading joy and warmth throughout the community.



The festivities continued with a captivating hall segment featuring performances by our Chinese Dance Troupe, Guzheng Ensemble, Chinese Opera, and accompanied by the presentation of awards for the Best Decorated Classes. As a fitting finale, a lively Lion Dance performance was held, delighting students, teachers, parents from P@X Exco and alumni in attendance and adding to the jubilant atmosphere of the event.

### Mother Tongue Fortnight Programme

In conjunction with the CNY festivities, the MTL Department also hosted its annual Mother Tongue Fortnight Programme. The wide array of activities tailored for students at all levels received a positive reception. Exciting programmes such as silat, calligraphy, and wayang kulit creation were among the highlights that our students enthusiastically participated in.

To close the CNY celebration with a big bang, the school invited a dragon dance troupe for an exhilarating performance. Adding to the excitement of enthusiastic students, Mr Tan, our Principal, was invited on stage to participate in the dragon dance. Undoubtedly, there was no better way to conclude the celebratory season than with this vibrant and spirited performance!





## SEC 3 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE LEARNING CAMP

For the second consecutive year following the COVID-19 hiatus, the Sec 3 Camp proved to be a resounding success. A diverse array of activities was meticulously arranged to ignite the camping spirit among our Sec 3 students. From raft-building and amazing races to rock climbing, dragon boating, and outdoor cooking, the camp offered a range of challenges that encouraged participants to push beyond their comfort zones and discover their untapped potential.

In a span of three days, teachers and camp facilitators witnessed remarkable growth in our students. Despite harbouring reservations, most students began to appreciate the positive aspects of the camp within the first day itself. As they persevered through challenging conditions and tasks, new bonds and friendships were forged, underscoring the transformative power of shared experiences and overcoming obstacles together.



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104  
Show all comments (17)



104  
Show all comments (17)



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SUBSCRIBE

For the finale, the students, teachers, and facilitators gathered together for the much-anticipated camp fire. With students and teachers doing our school's new mass dance together as well as exciting performances prepared by the students, the event showcased the strong camaraderie they had built throughout the camp. As the night unfolded, it became evident that the cohort camp left a profound and lasting impact on all who had the privilege of being part of it.





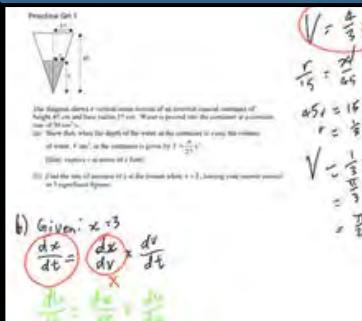
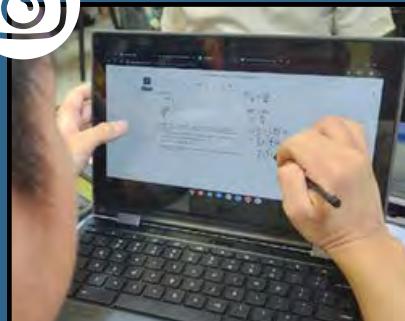
## THE WAY WE LEARN @XMS!



Furthermore, to enable students to showcase their workings and solutions using stylus pens, teachers embraced the use of Classkick. Through this application, teachers could gain invaluable real-time insights into students' progress, track individual performance, pinpoint areas of difficulty, and promptly intervene by offering immediate and tailored feedback to provide additional support.

## Dynamism and real-time feedback in Math!

To solidify their understanding of mathematical concepts, teachers utilised Kahoot!, an interactive learning platform, to craft quizzes. When the Sec 2 students delved into special algebraic identities, they engaged in a quiz tailored to identify and address any misconceptions they might have had. The gamification aspect not only motivated students but also encouraged healthy competition through the team-play feature, allowing them to collaborate and discuss before submitting their answers.



## Sustainability in Science!

Embracing hands-on learning, the Secondary 1 Hydroponics project offers a unique opportunity for students to explore the world of hydroponics and its potential in bolstering food sustainability in Singapore. Through this initiative, Sec 1 Xinmin students learn about various types of hydroponic systems available and how such technology contributes to Singapore's aim of locally producing 30% of its nutritional needs by 2030.

Students cultivated their own vegetables in dedicated hydroponics greenhouse, gaining firsthand experience in transplanting seedlings and relishing the satisfaction of harvesting their own produce. Beyond acquiring technical skills, the project aimed to instill a deeper appreciation for sustainable practices and inspire students to ponder on how scientific knowledge can be harnessed to shape a more sustainable future for Singapore.





## VOICES OF XINMIN - DSA EXPERIENCES

XAVIER TAY ZHI WEN - 405



**Describe your experience at Xinmin Secondary School thus far.**

Throughout my years in the school, I was continuously encouraged to pursue my interest in shooting. My teachers have been very supportive in my shooting endeavours and have actively involved me in the National School Games and other competitions that led up to them. Recently, as a pinnacle to my shooting achievements, I was invited to join the National Youth Shooting Team to further pursue my passion for the sport. Thus, I would say that I am well-supported to pursue my passion and the experiences in my CCA have been highly motivating.

**Highlight your most memorable experience with your CCA at the school.**

In 2023, I had the honour of being selected to compete in the National Schools Games for the Air Rifle Men's Category. Going head-to-head against formidable opponents like Hwa Chong Institution and Singapore Sports School, our team faced a daunting challenge. However, we remained composed, steadied our nerves, and gave it our all. In the end, our team's perseverance paid off, and we proudly secured the gold medal, which is a remarkable achievement for our team.

**What is one thing you would like to tell your juniors or potential DSA students?**

I want to share with my juniors that with dedication and perseverance, they can accomplish remarkable achievements, especially with the support we receive. To prospective DSA students interested in Xinmin Shooting, I can confidently say that we have an exceptional coach and dedicated teachers who are committed to nurturing our talents and helping us reach our goals. With their guidance and encouragement, there's no limit to what we can achieve as a team!



## VOICES OF XINMIN - DSA EXPERIENCES

SHREYEN OOI XIANG YI - 404

**Describe your experience at Xinmin Secondary School thus far.**

My journey in both my CCA and school has been incredibly fulfilling. I've had the privilege to participate in numerous school events, including Homecoming, Chinese New Year Celebrations, and All Staff Day, all of which have left an indelible mark on me. At Homecoming, I had the opportunity to engage with a diverse range of individuals while manning my class booth, significantly boosting my confidence in interacting with strangers and strengthening the bonds with my friends. Additionally, my involvement in my CCA has been instrumental in my personal growth, equipping me with valuable life lessons and moulding me into the person I am today.

**Highlight your most memorable experience with your CCA at the school.**

In my volleyball journey, I've been fortunate to partake in various events, including team bonding activities, camps, and competitions. Among them, the team bonding activities stand out as the most memorable experiences for me. These activities were not just about having fun; they were designed to foster camaraderie and unity within our team. One particular event that stood out was our trip to Sentosa, where we engaged in a range of exciting team-based games. Despite the scorching sun, everyone participated enthusiastically, forging strong bonds among teammates. I cherish the moments spent with my teammates during these activities and will always hold these memories close to my heart.

**What is one thing you would like to tell your juniors or potential DSA students?**

I want to convey to students contemplating to join Xinmin via Volleyball DSA that this CCA offers an array of exhilarating adventures. Beyond the sport itself, you'll have the opportunity to cultivate lifelong friendships, experience transformative moments, and nurture your character throughout your years at the school.



## VOICES OF THE YOUTH

ARTICLES WRITTEN BY OUR VERY  
OWN XINMIN STUDENTS

### NEW UNIFORM POLICY BY MAXINNE RAE GAVIERES - 305



"Through Term 2 and 3, students will now be allowed to wear half-uniform to school." This is an announcement that we've come to steadily grow fond of in our years at Xinmin. It is permission to forgo our unbearably suffocating uniforms for a breathable, readily available alternative. But why should that be the case?

While our country being so close to the equator is the prime reason for our calid days, global warming also plays a major part. In recent years, global temperatures have skyrocketed, with an obvious effect on our little red dot. Singapore's daily temperatures have been rising at a rate of  $0.25^{\circ}\text{C}$  per decade, making our school significantly hotter than it would have been 20 years ago. Experiencing this weather while wearing a drenched shirt definitely takes its toll on our students.

Next, it's no surprise that half-uniform is already the preferred way of dressing by our students. With the uniforms affecting with our yearly 'academic comeback' mentality and overall comfortability, it comes as a major relief when Term 2 approaches and our student body is a sea of blue. Learning in a more relaxed manner can resume, and school days are easier to get by.

Lastly, half-uniforms help promote physical activity amongst our students. Have you ever had the urge to play a game of volleyball with your friends during recess, but the thought of your uniform getting wet with perspiration deterred you immediately? Students won't be able to release their energy through healthier means, which may lead to lesson disruption and discomfort while trying to learn.

With my reasons and a myriad more, I believe half-uniform should be permanently implemented in our secondary school. Perhaps a more viable compromise would be to just wear our uniforms every Monday, to promote school spirit.

# A RACQUET'S ADVANTAGE

BY TAN YU TING - 301

A recent sight has been baffling Sec 2-5 Xinmin students all around the school: Sec 1s dedicating their recess, free periods, and lunches to exercise! The turnaround of the year is that badminton is back in style, and I hope that our beloved badminton CCA members are feeling the enthusiasm!

Personally, I think that badminton as a sport deserves a lot more limelight. That's why I'm eternally grateful to the Sec 1s, and respect them for leading such an active and healthy lifestyle by picking up the sport! It's good that not all of them are iPad kids.

Speaking of which, since we're now living in an inter-connected world, we now ought to keep a look out for fake news and scams, as well as shuttlecocks!



# ARE WE PREPARED FOR A CRISIS?

BY JASYLN SIM - 302



On February 15, 1942, Singapore succumbed to Japanese forces, marking a pivotal moment in history. Today, we commemorate it as Total Defence Day to be reminded of the sufferings of our forefathers in the past and appreciate our blessed lives in the present. This year's Total Defence Day, Singapore launched a nationwide exercise, simulating disruptions to our food supply, among many more crises. Such activities encourage us to be more prepared for catastrophic situations that may befall us.

However, as citizens of Singapore and students of Xinmin Secondary School, I believe we need to be more prepared for a crisis and be appreciative of the things we have presently.

Our school was given the opportunity to experience what it would be like in the event of food disruption. During the CCE lesson on 16 February, everyone had a packed meals of a small portion to simulate the experience of having insufficient food supply. Even so, we could choose the meal variant we wanted — something that our forefathers did not have. Despite this, some students expressed discontent with the packed meal and some of them did not finish their food. This showed that perhaps students may not understand the importance of Total Defence Day and appreciate the efforts that go into helping them learn the significance.

It would not be exaggerating to say that the Total Defence Day experience was not only educational, but illuminating. We need to be grateful for the things we already have at all times, but especially in times of crisis. Let us cultivate a sense of gratitude and make the most of what we have to foster a positive mindset change in ourselves and our community.

# NSG WELL-WISHES FROM STUDENTS TO STUDENTS



Good luck guys!! Even though you guys are the youngest in the competition, you can prove to them that you guys are the best!!! 😊👍 O(∩\_∩)O Jiayou!

- From Rais (203) to Floorball Boys



I hope that you will have fun at the NSG shooting this year and hopefully win a medal like last year! Good Luck!

- From Louis Ho (107) to Shooting Boys



Good luck for your matches!!!! So far you all won 5 to 0. I really hope this can still go on and i believe it will come through too!!! You all can do it!!! 加油!

- From Clara (107) to Badminton Girls



May we thrive, may we keep going on , never forget the good memories & remember what it was like to have success. We were never weak, better than the past. We can do this for us.

- From Sri Imelda (202) to every athlete



## To Volleyball Superstars!

As the National School Games ramp up, I wanted to take a moment to shower you all with some serious cheer and heaps of good vibes! 🏐🌟 You've been smashing it in practice, dazzling with your skills, and radiating that winning spirit like nobody's business. So here's to each and every one of you, the dynamic dream team! May your serves be powerful, your spikes unstoppable, and your teamwork unbeatable. Remember, on that court, you're not just players — you're warriors of the game, champions in the making! Stay focused, stay fierce, and most importantly, stay true to the love of the game. Your hard work and dedication are bound to shine through, lighting up the court with your brilliance. Go out there, own that court, and make every moment count! You've got this, and we're all rooting for you with everything we've got!

Sending you endless cheers, high fives, and the biggest burst of positive energy your way! Let's go, Team Volleyball! 🏐🌟

- From Arsheen (307) to Volleyball Girls



# NSG WELL-WISHES FROM TEACHERS TO STUDENTS



To my Floorball Boys and VB Girls and Boys, you have trained so hard for your NSG and it's now time for you to shine! Regardless of the outcome, remember that the true victory lies in the effort you've invested and the growth you've experienced throughout this journey.

Most importantly, support one another, embrace the challenge of a difficult game, and have fun!

- From Ms Charlene Chan to Floorball & Volleyball Athletes



"A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor" - Franklin D Roosevelt

No matter the ups and downs, keep your mind calm and your fighting spirit strong!

- From Ms Tiffany Lim to all sportsmen/women



All the best for your NSG season! Play your best, give it your all, and always remember that we are cheering you on! May you always remember that you are stronger than you think and more loved than you ever know!

- From Ms Heidi Tan to all 305, 302, 304, 307, 201, 204, 205 students



You have been training just as hard as your team and I believe you are as important to the team as the main players! Continue working hard and be the support and backbone of the team!

- From Ms Farhana to all reserve athletes



Go out there and be the best version of yourself - be competitive yet with good sportsmanship, and stay safe! Cheering and rooting for each of you 304 peeps, you can do it!

- From Ms Sarah Teo to all 304 Students



You all have worked hard to reach this point, and now it's time to showcase your efforts at the Nationals. Believe in yourself, stay focused on your goals, give it your best effort, and enjoy every moment of your NSG journey. Let's go, Xinmin, let's go! 🌟

- From Ms Joey Tay to Volleyball Girls



"It is good to have an end to journey toward. But it is the journey that matters, in the end" - Ernest Hemingway. You were the ones who started this CCA and while your journey is coming to an end, I hope you remember the memories we have forged along the way!

- From Mr Thiru to Pioneer Batch of Cross Country Athletes



# COMING UP!



Week	Programme	Date(s)	Levels
Week 6	Student Leadership Elections	22/04 to 24/04	S3
	Prelim MTL Oral Exams	Until 03/05	S3, S4/5
	Wellness Week	Week-long	All
	Design and Tinker Fiesta	Week-long	All
Week 8	Xinmin Cross Country	10/05	All
Week 9	MTL O-Level Intensive Revision	13/05 to 24/05	All
	Class Photo-Taking	14/05 to 15/05	S4/5
	Student Leaders' Investiture	17/05	All

FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR, CLICK ON THE LINK OR SCAN!

[CALENDAR HERE!](#)



# COMING UP!



Week	Programme	Date(s)	Levels
Week 10	XCUBE 1	Week-long	All
	Class Bonding Day	21/05	S4/5
	Applied Learning Modules@Schools	Week-long	S3N
	Parent-Teacher Meeting	24/05	All
Jun Hols	Humanities Overseas Trip	26/05 to 30/05	S3 (selected students)
	GCE O-Level MTL & MTL (B) Written Examinations	27/05	S4/5
	Math Olympiad Competition	28/05 to 29/05	All (selected students)
	Leadership Adventure Camp	03/06 to 06/06	S3 (selected students)
	Xinmin Model Parliament	19/06	S2, S3 (selected students)

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**CALENDAR HERE!**

