Mr Scott because he always let’s me go to the Gold Zone! —Isabelle

Ms Katie is so nice to me and is helpful. —Zen He

Ms Linh because she’s always funny and kind. —Roa

Mr Scott because he’s handsome! —Ming Xuan

Ms Pavithra teaches us experiments and I love Science! —Charvi

Ms Emily S because she’s so kind and talented. —Ling Siew

Ms Carrena is a good teacher and is talented. —Corlissa

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In secondary, we are well into the examination season. Having been a teacher for many years, I know the stress this can place on students and parents. Below is some advice for parents and students on how they might cope with stress.

One of the main coping methods that is constantly emphasized is talking. Encourage your children to talk to you about their worries and concerns. In school, your children can always see me personally, their form teachers, Mr. Mike - the Head of Pastoral - and Mrs. Jacee, our counselor, if they need to talk.

**You might ask how can I help my child?**

Exams are a stressful time for any young person. Mood swings and outbursts are more likely to occur during this period. Look out for other signs that your child may be struggling, including poor sleep patterns or a change in appetite or behaviour. It’s worth preparing ways of supporting your child during exam weeks and thinking about how you will react to stress.

**These are things that can really make a difference:**

1. Work with your child to find what revision style works for them.
2. Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
3. Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
4. Encourage them to take some time after revising to wind down.
5. Reassure them – reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens.
6. Remain positive and hopeful!
7. Plan a treat or an activity together to mark the end of the exams.
8. Set aside one to one time so that they can talk to you about any worries.
9. Let them know their feelings are valid and normal, but also offer support and solutions where possible.
10. Anxiety is often worst at night and this means it is useful to encourage good bedtime routine
11. Work with them to develop relaxation techniques.
You might also like to advise your child to do the following:

**When you are feeling the stress, get talking**

- Remind yourself that a certain amount of stress is motivation. Use the emotion to improve your performance.
- Talk to friends. They’re there to help. Talking to them will help you realise you’re not alone and they’ll give you support.
- Talk to your teachers or parents. They will have a different perspective to you. They can help you problem solve and find practical solutions.
- Take regular breaks
- Revise with friends. This can be great as you keep up your social life and you don’t feel isolated and alone.
- Practice mindfulness and concentrate on your breathing.

Finally here are some websites that might be of use to you:

https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources/gcse-exam-revision/advice-for-parents

https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zsvcqhv

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**MAY DIARY**

**April Mon 29th**: EYFS Mothers’ Day celebrations

**April Tue 30th**: Primary Sports Day

**Wed 1st**: Labour Day holiday

**Fri 3rd**: KS1 Mothers’ Day celebrations; Secondary Sport Day

**Mon 6th**: Yr 9 Penang PAC trip

**Wed 8th**: Primary ISMC Maths Comp

**Tue 14th**: Languages Day

**Thu 16th**: Teachers’ Day

**Mon 20—Wed 22nd**: School Holidays

**Wed 29th**: Twilight Concert
Q1. What qualities should an ideal student possess?
  Good learning attitudes such as being teachable, humble and eager to learn.

Q2. When was the last time you laughed out loud?
  Last week when reading a funny Facebook post.

Q3. What’s the best and worst thing about your job?
  I find fulfilment and satisfaction in what I am doing so far, but it always seems that I can offer and contribute more.

Q4. What did you want to be when you were younger?
  A doctor.

Q5. What are your plans for this weekend?
  Do something refreshing such as a morning jog/walk at a park while enjoying the sunrise view, and to enjoy my favourite food.

Q6. Who is your favorite colleague and why?
  Mr Sharul, as we can just talk to each other about what we like and sometimes make fun of each other. Furthermore, he is a dedicated teacher even though he prefers to keep a low profile.

Q7. What is your favorite Malaysian dish?
  Nasi lemak.

Q8. What’s your relationship status?
  Single.

Q9. How old are you?
  80/2 + 2(3.5)

Q10. What are your hobbies?
  Jogging, hiking, movies.

Q11. Do you have a secret talent?
  Wiggle my nose.

Q12. Where have you taught?
  SMK Skudai, Johor, BrainBuilder and Pelita International School in Penang.

Q13. What’s your most embarrassing moment?
  A student whispered to me, “Mr John, your pants are unzipped.”

Q14. Where’s your favourite place in the world?
  Finland. I’ve heard that this is one of the best countries which has an excellent education system.

Q15. What were your best and worst subjects in school?
  I remember much better what the function of the human heart (Biology) is than the date of Georgetown Heritage Day (History).
Activity Spotlight on Arts and Craft—with Ms Nurul

Q. Why are you running this activity?
A: I love to do crafts during my free time. Sometimes I’m also amazed that we can create so many things using recycled things.

Q: Is it challenging or easy to teach students?
A: I think teaching itself has always been challenging as we always encounter students that have a different style and thinking.

Q: How did you get interested in this Activity?
A: I think it was when I was a kindergarten teacher back in 2016 when I successfully managed to make use of craft with the little children.

Q: Who is your favourite student in this Activity and why?
A: It’s hard to say because this is the first time I’ve run this activity.

Q: What age level do you prefer to teach?
A: Primary, maybe because of the joy and experience.

Q: Have you learned new things teaching them?
A: Yes, for example, I know that even boys like making crafts and they are far more creative than I am.

Q: How do your students make progress?
A: They are doing well even though this is the early stage of the term. I cannot wait to see how far they are improving.
Welcome back after the Easter break! We hope you had a fun couple of weeks off and are ready to begin the summer term. We have 2 new students joining us. They are Jared Khoo and Lee Jyn Ee.

The Nursery children started their week happily, with a smile, back to school. Nursery started with songs and rhymes. All the children had fun and enjoyed the songs. The theme for this term is Space. They were introduced to our Space theme. They even did some Space craft such as the Sun and Moon which were used to decorate our Nursery classroom.

They even had fun writing their names independently in classroom. How much fun to see that the Nursery children were able to write their own name independently? In Literacy, students were introduced to the phonic sound and letter formation of the letter Mm, Nn and Oo. Students were given hands-on activities to learn the formation of the letter. Maths lessons were focused on building further understanding in getting students to do number and value correspondence. Students also learnt to form the numbers 8 and 9 and co-relate it to the correct value.

For Art, they coloured Easter eggs correctly, according to the shape’s colour and they did it amazingly. All their Easter eggs were displayed outside the window of the Nursery classroom.
Welcome back to school! We hope all of you had a lovely holiday and are energised to kick start the summer term. All the students were very excited to share about what they had done during their holidays especially as they had the holiday memory homework to do with their parents. It was great to see that they have put so much effort into their homework.

They were introduced to our new theme this term which is ‘Space’. Children were excited to share about their knowledge on space and learn about the different planets that we have.

In Literacy, we have been revising on all the phonics sounds that they have learnt during their last term before they are introduced to new phonics sounds. The children did some writing for their mothers in conjunction with the upcoming Mother’s Day celebration.

In Numeracy, the children have been introduced to using the correct position words to describe the location of things.

We are looking forward to the upcoming Mothers’ Day celebration that we have planned for all the mothers and we hope that you will enjoy it too.
YEAR ONE with Ms Lisa and Mr Myron

Year 1 are off to a great start to the term! We have been using our imagination to write fictional stories in English. We have been writing about our imaginary adventures into space. In Music we have been learning about the high and low pitches of sounds through movement activities.

The children have been enjoying their first time swimming as a class and everyone has been very brave! It’s been great to see the children floating and blowing bubbles! In Maths we have been securing our understanding of addition and subtraction, in particular, 1 more and 1 less along with 10 more and 10 less. We are beginning to use vertical addition to solve our problems. Well done Year 1! Keep up the great work!
Welcome back to what will be our final term in Year 2! That makes me feel quite sad to write. We have certainly had two busy terms leading up to this one and I don’t think our final term will be any different.

The children have started back to school with a great positive attitude and have certainly settled back into the work quickly.

In English, we have been reading *The Diary of a Killer Cat*. The children have really been enjoying it and it has certainly helped to improve comprehension skills. I think my brain was still in holiday mode when we started reading the story because I was getting the names all confused. I accidentally called Zyon, ‘Tuffy’ (the main character in the story—a cat) and then I put Shridhaya in the story as one of the characters. The children were a little confused for a while...so was I.

“Ms Hannah, do you need to go back to bed?” - Thanks Nina, I think I do!

Maths this term has challenged our Year 2 students. They have revised their division skills by looking at fractions of numbers and shapes. It has been lovely to see them transferring their knowledge across the different units. We have had a few ‘I can’t do it’ moments but with the help of our teachers and friends we realised things weren’t as difficult as we first thought.

We are starting two new very exciting topics in Science and Humanities this term: Electricity and Inventions. Both of these fit hand in hand so the learning in both subjects will support the other.
Year 3 have had a great start to our Summer term, and have started full of passion and enthusiasm!

This term in English, we have been reading *Gregory Cool* and had a great time researching and learning all about Tobago and what it must have been like for Gregory to be sent there and have to spend four weeks with his grandparents! We found out lots of fun things to do and tasty food such as Buljol!

In Mathematics, we have begun the term revisiting coordinates and have had a great time playing different games to help strengthen our knowledge and understanding of how to read coordinates. Remember, you go along the corridor and up the stairs to the MPH! (horizontal coordinate before vertical)

Finally, in Humanities we have once again put our geography hats on and have been learning all about rivers. Why not ask your child some of the key words we have learned such as: tributary, waterfall, mountain spring, and meander.
YEAR FOUR with Mr Linh

Our third and final term began with a big mystery in Humanities. For their History unit, the children put on their archaeologist hats to explore the Sutton Hoo mystery in England. They learnt that the artifacts came from the Anglo-Saxon era and are getting closer to finding out who was actually buried beneath the mounds. In English, we are enjoying Roald Dahl’s book, *George’s Marvellous Medicine*. We have analysed each chapter, focusing on pronouns, adverbs and other important writing structures. Some of our students were lucky enough to be chosen to attend the Penang Primary Performing Arts workshop at Tenby International School. Well done on your performance!
Year Five with Mr Jack

Year 5 we have started to learn many new topics that we have not seen before. In Science, we have had the opportunity to start learning in details about different states and the link between a solid, liquid and gas. In Maths, we have been focusing on percentages and tackling the tricky task of converting percentages into decimals. To check our understanding we have learned the inverse where we have converted decimals into percentages. In Humanities we have completed our learning on the Battle of Hastings by creating castles and role play. Now, our learning is focusing on Crime and Punishment.
YEAR SIX with Ms Ahreum and Mr Gwyn

Do you read poetry? Do you know anybody who reads poetry? We are guessing the answer is a resounding ‘no’. Fear not, my reader! We are here to make you fall in love with poetry. What kind of poetry do you think you would be interested in? Are you a traditionalist who loves rhythm and rhyme and is looking for the meaning of life? We recommend Alfred Lord Tennyson and Sara Teasdale. Do you want romance and passionate love? *The Highwayman* by Alfred Noyes is here to rescue you from your dull and mundane surroundings. Perhaps you are a modernist who is looking for a cheeky and jocund mood? Why not start with Brian Patten’s *Reading the Classics*? If you can handle that, we are sure you will love any work by E E Cummings! We hope his *Uncle Sol’s Worm Farm* is still going strong! We also love and LOVE Michael Rosen who has a unique ability to turn an everyday childhood moment into a hilarious tale. What? What is that you’ve just said? You don’t believe there is any purpose or meaning to life? Well, we have poetry for that too! Why don’t you try blackout poetry for good measure? You see, there is poetry for all of us. Why not give poetry a chance?
This term, Year 8 students have been studying *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley. This play was written in 1945 and has themes such as gender inequality, socialism and equal rights.

The play revolves around the apparent suicide of a young woman called Eva Smith.

In the play, the unsuspecting Birling family are visited by the mysterious Inspector Goole. He arrives just as they are celebrating the engagement of Sheila Birling to Gerald Croft. The Inspector reveals that a girl called Eva Smith has taken her own life by drinking disinfectant. The family are horrified but initially confused as to why the Inspector has called to see them. What follows is a tense and uncomfortable investigation by an all-knowing Inspector, through which the family discover that they are all in fact caught up in this poor girl's death.

Students have been acting out scenes in the play and we have looked at how the setting also affects the play. They created their own drawings focusing on the key adjectives to describe the main characters and sketched the scene themselves.
This week in Year 4, students were learning how to measure length accurately. There were various hands-on activities that we carried out when dealing with measure and problem solving, such as working with a partner to measure objects in the classroom that are between 1 cm — 15 cm.

When we continued our lesson to ‘metres and centimetres’, the students were split into a group of 4 to 5 people to estimate and measure the height of their group member. Each group was given a metre ruler and group members took turns to estimate the height of their friend by looking at the metre stick to tell the possible height. After that, the class proceeded to the medical bay where we used the height measurement to take the actual height of everyone.

I am hoping that through these hands-on activities, students will remember the content of learning better and eventually they will love Maths more. :)}
SECONDARY SCIENCE with Mr John Foo

During our Spring term 2018-19, six of our secondary students from Y10 and Y11 had taken the opportunity to participate STEM Exploration 2019 which was organised by and held in INTI International College Penang.

Two different types of workshop were running simultaneously, and our students were divided into two teams. The first team was participating in workshops concerning electrical and electronic engineering, and Computer & IT field. For the first hour, they were required to log in to a website where they were learning to create their own website. In the second hour the students were provided with a circuit board and electronic components, and they were required to complete the circuit which would make a buzzer sound. I have witnessed that they were putting their brains and sweat together to make their product a success.

For the second team, our three students were joining forces with three students from another school. They were participating in the Spaghetti Bridge Competition (Mechanical Engineering & Quantity Surveying). Dry spaghettis, rubber bands, super glue, glue sticks and glue gun were provided. Within two hours, each team was required to build a spaghetti bridge which could withstand 60 kgs weight and even more. I saw one of our students carrying the final product with satisfaction, lining up with other contestants so that the bridge could be tested.

At the end when the result was announced, although our school teams did not make it for any prize, our students were excited after having great fun in the process of learning and practicing their scientific knowledge and skills. Indeed, this event had raised much of their awareness and interest to select engineering related fields in their coming university studies.
ICT with Ms Haniza

This term IGCSE exams started with the ICT subject as a second paper after Art. Year 11 will sit for their practical paper 1 and paper 2 this week. I hope they will do well and so please pray for their success. This year, for the first time, we will offer another option of a computer subject for the IGCSE. It is Computer Science and this subject will be included in option 2. The code for Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science is 0478. Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science helps students develop an interest in computing and gain confidence in computational thinking. It is an ideal foundation for further studies at Cambridge International AS and A Level, and the skills learnt can also be used in other areas of study and in everyday life. Understanding the principles of Computer Science provides learners with the underpinning knowledge required for many other subjects in science and engineering.

In Primary, Year 3 have started to learn a basic animation program. They were very excited to create their own animation using *abcya* animate. The editing experience is fun and easy to use for kids. With access to a 2D animation maker, they can create intricate and interesting stories that will help them connect with the audience. This term, they are trying to make funny cartoons, explainer videos, or informative shorts using this online program.
SECONDARY HUMANITIES with Ms Lily

As the final term approaches the Year 11 students are working very hard on their revision for their forthcoming IGCSE exams. Extra revision classes are already underway for History and Business Studies. Students need to ensure that they prepare themselves and give themselves plenty of time for revision outside of the classroom. Below are some useful tips, for all students, when preparing for any assessments.

10 Quick Tips for Successful Exam Preparation

1. Give yourself enough time to study. Make a study schedule that fits your way of studying and do not leave anything for the last minute
2. Use flow charts, diagrams and flash cards
3. Practice on past exam papers
4. Take regular breaks, drink plenty of water and get plenty of rest
5. Plan the day of your exams, make sure you get to your exam early so you don’t stress yourself out.

Opportunity to study for an extra IGCSE

This year, the Year 9 students have been given the opportunity to study for an extra IGCSE than previous year groups. In the activity sheet for Term 3 2019, the Humanities Department are now offering students a chance to opt for IGCSE Global Perspectives. This is an actual IGCSE and the students will be working on the syllabus during Tuesday and Friday activity times. This gives the students the opportunity to start studying for an IGCSE earlier than those in their year group and aim for more IGCSEs in Year 11. Due to the time allowance students will need to complete more of the work load independently. They will also need to continue the lessons in Year 10 and Year 11, during 2 of the activity times. If you would like more information about this please do not hesitate to contact Ms Lily or Mr Chris.
Now is the first half term in summer. To make sure the students can understand Mandarin more, they need to learn the correct way of writing the Chinese characters. There are various interesting ways to teach the students when it comes to Mandarin. Here are some ways to get them to feel relaxed while learning.

For Year 3 and year 5 students, they do some drawing while learning new topics. Drawing is one of the ways to make the class interesting and students will get a clearer picture of that topic. They become more active when drawing. They can imagine and at the same time they can learn to write the Mandarin words.

Year 3 students this term will focus on writing. Therefore, there is a lot of practice regarding writing Chinese characters. The most important way to learn Mandarin is knowing the Chinese characters and the way of writing such as recognising the stroke, stroke counting and the stroke sequence.

Apart from drawing, year 5 students also played guessing games. The guessing game among the students is one way which to make the students excited while learning. This encourages the students to participate more during lessons and also motivate them to learn.

Reception and year 1 students learn to recognise Chinese characters through song and video clips. For year 1, they also practise their reading skills and concentration. We use flashcard reading with speed and accurate pronunciation. They only have a few seconds to recognise the vocabulary before immediately pronouncing the words. The students must be ready to learn and focus on the teacher in order to quickly respond.

In the school, students gain knowledge and also learn how to be a better person. As they work in groups, they must know how to work together, and bring out something which is useful to them. This can train their collaborative and also their creative minds. This will encourage the students to participate in building up confidence.
Primary Bahasa with Ms Shantiletcumni Sellapa

The use of Laptops During Learning

Mobile devices and applications supported by them can assist students in their careers in the future if this technology is used properly. They provide an opportunity to enhance interaction among students and instructors through collaboration.

Integrating technology in education helps students to engage. Most students today have been using mobile devices since they were very small. Therefore, logic says we should use this technology in the classroom because they are very close to the students.

Combining new technologies like VR (Virtual Reality) by way of learning in the classroom is one example of how new technologies are able to enhance the learning experience and create new opportunities.

Technology helps students become more responsible. Discovering how to use their own mobile devices, or a borrowed mobile device owned by the school, provides opportunities for students to improve their skills in decision-making.

Technology has changed and enhances the learning experience. Students have access to incredible new opportunities. Starting from how to code to beginning to learn how to better collaborate through teams; and using instructions, where technology provides an opportunity for students to be more creative and get in touch with more people. New technologies give super opportunities to how we learn nowadays.
PERFORMING ARTS with Ms Emily

Rehearsals are underway in full force for the upcoming production of *We Will Rock You*. All students from year 5-8 have shown great enthusiasm in learning their songs and routines as Queen’s legendary music continues to motivate them. Additionally, the lead cast are fantastically talented. It really is going to be a show to remember!

See below some of the posters that students have designed for the show - the winning poster will be used to advertise the show!

Ha-Yeon, 7I  Bareesh, 8S  Nicholas, 7I
The PE department would like to use this opportunity to invite parents to attend the upcoming sports day events.

The students have worked hard throughout the year on many transferable sporting skills and, more recently, have been focused on developing their running, jumping and throwing techniques.

EYFS and KS1 sports day will take place in the MPH on Tuesday 30th April from 12.30pm - 14.30pm. The students will take part in a carousel of activities beginning with throwing and jumping. After this, they will compete in their own running races before hopefully seeing their parents and teachers participate.

KS2 sports day will take place on the police field on Tuesday 30th April from 8.00am - 10.30am. The students will have the opportunity to take part in both track and field events while earning points for their house team. On completion of the track and field events, we are once again inviting parents and teachers to participate in races to promote the sport further to the students.

KS3 and KS4 sports day will take place at Westlands Sports Excellence Center in George Town on Friday 3rd May. This event will last the entire day with students competing in a range of track and field events.

All of our sports events aim to promote the keys values of sport to the students including sportsmanship, participation and effort. We hope to see you at the events to cheer on the students.