

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

The year 2020 is coming to a close and it seemed only recently that we were deciding on how to implement Home-Based Learning (HBL), planning to ensure that CPAS School remains safe for all as Circuit Breaker discontinued and schools reopened for lessons. A set of Safe Management Measures (SMM) was implemented and a new norm soon settled in with the wearing of masks and social distancing.

It had been an unprecedented year for all of us. The pandemic caused all physical activities to cease; from students to teachers, everyone had to stay within the school, learning journeys, class outings, work attachments, overseas trips and even the weekly community mobility training grounded to a halt. Although it had been challenging, we survived thus far and this was due to the strong support from staff and parents.

We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all parents, for your cooperation and understanding when new norms were set in place as we adhered to SMM restrictions. This included physical safe distancing by allowing only approved caregivers to enter School, as well as the number of persons inside classrooms and ensuring that approved caregivers are seated outside the respective classrooms of their charges. Such strict measures ensured that there was no intermingling between classes as well as programmes (e.g. EIPIC or DAC) or departments (e.g. therapy departments at level 3 and headquarters at level 4). Though this could have caused some inconvenience to everyone, it was necessary and as we prepare for the year end school holidays, please do take note that when School resumes on 4 January 2021, many of the SMM would still continue.

During the September holidays, my school management with a few key personnel came together to revisit the School's Vision and strategic focus so that we could set clearer directions to steer the School forward. Through our intense discussions, we have envisioned the new CPAS School Vision to be "A School that ¹empowers students to be ²active learners in the ³community."

1empower:Equip students with knowledge, skills and attributes to be independent and autonomous (make choices)2active learners:Engage in learning processes3community:Environments where the students live, learn, work and play

To achieve this new School Vision, there are four Strategic Focus (SF) that would steer the School to achieve it. They are:

SF 1: Harness Information Technology (IT) and Assistive Technology (AT) for students to access communication and learning

- SF 2: Customise a student-centric and future-ready curriculum
- SF 3: Engage students in leisure activities in the community

SF 4: Collaborate with families to support students learning and development using the Trans D model

The journey ahead for CPAS School is an exciting one as we strive to equip our students with Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices to bridge their learning and build their confidence in communication; continue our curriculum journey; explore leisure activities with the families for our students to access the community and work with families to transfer skills and strategies so that your child could generalise them at home. We invite you on-board with us as we journey to bring CPAS School to its next lap.

Have an enjoyable school holiday and stay safe till we meet again in 2021!

Yours sincerely, Mrs Koh-Lim Ai Lay School Principal



Specific instructions were given to Ramp Assistant while aiming at the jack ball.

CCA Boccia Updates

Written by Ms Joyce Loh, Teacher

Despite the Covid-19 situation, Coaches and Teachers from CCA Boccia were still training the students to prepare them for their competition next year. The team purchased 2 new sets of boccia balls from Korea. Coaches and Ramp Assistants also worked hard in calibrating the ramps to

improve on their accuracy during training.

Students in CCA Boccia worked hard in honing their skills during the training sessions. On-going training for players focused on improving strategy skills such as placing, blocking, breaking, distance gauging and problem solving.



Throwing ball into a targeted hoop was one of the training activities.



CCATrack and Field Updates Written by Ms Noredah Sim, Senior Teacher

Training for CCA Track and Field had to adopt a set of new routines for the Coach, Teachers and Students so as to adhere to the SMM. Training had been differentiated to incorporate more moderate to vigorous intensity running, agility drills and aerobic exercises. Without compromising on any safety measures, students were exposed to various games and sports, providing them with a different experience from the usual running drill and

Drills were conducted to improve agility of students. endurance training. It had also challenged the students to try out new cardio workouts while increasing their body awareness. Despite the absence of a running track and with the constraint of space, students had learnt the importance of adapting to new challenges, building resilience, embracing the new norm of teamwork and upholding responsibility within their own capacity.

Drills were conducted to improve body the students.

Students were taking charge of their own warm-up and cool down exercises.

CCA Swimming Updates

Written by Ms Kan Yuan Ping, Teacher

As the measures and restrictions of Covid-19 slowly eased, students from the CCA Swimming could finally enter the pool again. They had resumed water training in the CPAS pool since the beginning of Term 4.

The Swimming Coaches continued to work on the students' swimming strokes and also tried to incorporate some fun pool activities involving light medicine balls. Swimmers had shown their excitement in resuming their training in the pool and continued to demonstrate confidence and resilience in the water.



Focusing on swimming strokes.



Fun water activities.



CCA Scouts Updates

Written by Ms Aifaa Liyana Bte Norazhar, Job Coach

In light of the recent pandemic situation, the weekly CCA Scouts sessions were mostly focused on activities for the attainment of proficiency badges. The Scouts also prepared short speeches and PowerPoint slides on their reflection for the year 2020 which they shared with the unit during the last CCA session of the year. The unit also continued with the physical training that started in Term 2 after every Friday assembly. The Scouts had improved their walking endurance and could even do some static exercises independently without prompts. The Scouts are looking forward to attaining more badges next year and hoping to go for outings and scouting activities as well.

First Aid badge.

Scouts were walking up the ramp to level 4 of CPAS as part of their exercise activity during CCA session.



Scouts were preparing a draft of their reflection speech.





Updates from ICT Domain team

Written by Ms Lanny Kwok, Head of Programme (ICT)

CPASS ICT Domain established partnerships with two institutions this year to work on two different projects. These institutions were National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Cluster (NAMIC) @ Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) and National University of Singapore (NUS).

Collaboration with NAMIC@SUTD focused on developing a solution for students with challenges in grasping and using normal spoons so that they could gain independency in self-feeding. Together with CPAS Assistive Technology (AT) Hub, the team had a few brainstorming sessions and conducted trials to develop a 3D-printed utensil holder. Harnessing the use of 3D printing technology, NAMIC printed a functional utensil holder that could be adapted for use with a regular spoon. Students trialling this holder were able to eat independently.

During the trial phase, there was a lot of positive feedback provided by students, therapists and teachers. CPASS is very appreciative to NAMIC@SUTD for their help and support during this project. We look forward to continued collaboration to create more customised AT devices to benefit our students in future projects.

The second collaboration was with NUS School of Mechanical Engineering and School of Biomechanical Engineering (BME), working with student taking modules on engineering solutions and assistive technology. These undergraduates worked on



Final prototype of a utensil holder was tested in class.

various projects such as helping students to manoeuvre their manual wheelchair using knobs attached to the rim of the wheels and creating a cover for the motorised wheelchair so that the rider could travel in any inclement weather. We are also grateful to NUS undergraduates for helping to increase the level of independency in our students.



The yellow 3D printed wheelchair knobs were designed by the students of NUS School of Biomechanical Engineering to allow better manoeuvring of the wheelchairs.





Syed Amsyar Bin Ahmad Alhamid (Eagle 5A) was using a fork to design the canvas pouch.

CareKitWithLove Initiative - Let's Design Together Written by Mr Koh Teng Hock, Vice-Principal

As part of the CareKitWithLove initiative by National Council of Social Services, there was a segment called Let's Design Together where volunteers conducted virtual art lessons for students with special needs to personalise their mask pouches. The objectives of the segment were to promote virtual volunteerism and also raise awareness on working with people of special needs.

On 21 October, six classes from the Functional Senior Programme participated in the

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virtual art lesson organised by the volunteers from Heartware Network. The students painted designs on canvas pouches provided by the volunteers. Ms

Elysia Goh of Heartware Network worked with the students via Zoom to guide them step-by-step to imprint the sample flower design on the pouch using a fork.



The art lesson was conducted via Zoom.

CCA Arts Showcase

Written by Ms Gena Tan, Teacher

From 9 to 12 November, four CCA groups namely the Creative Craft Club, Multi-Sensory Drama Club, Special Arts and Performing Arts came together to put up an end-of-year event to showcase the students' work amongst these four CCA groups. There was a mini art exhibition put up by CCA Special Arts which was accompanied by a screening of a virtual concert and play put up by CCAs Performing Arts and Multi-Sensory Drama Club respectively. The CCA Creative Craft Club also showcased their scented candles which were handmade by the students. The event was held for a week in the Music Room and all the classes took turns to visit this showcase. It was indeed a creative and visual arts-filled week for the School and the students enjoyed this experience.





Sales of candles by CCA Creative Craft Club



Team Facebook in action at one of the stations during Scavenger Hunt.

School Camp 2020

Written by Ms Naqeah Binte Shamsul Bahrin, Teacher

In August, CPASS organised the annual School Camp for 14 graduating students under the theme "WhatsUpp". Organisers had to ensure that Covid-19 SMM were adhered to throughout this camp. Camp activities were planned and conducted based on the various modes of social media. Students were organised

in groups named after social media and had fun participating in the Whatsapp Scavenger Hunt and talent show.

The highlight for this camp was a fine

dining experience with mocktail served! Teachers dressed up as waitresses and campers dolled up to enjoy a sumptuous dinner served with mocktails while watching recording of their talent show. Special cocktail glasses and garnishes were also used for the mocktails that were served throughout the evening. Students thoroughly enjoyed this specially planned dinner.



Although it was a day camp instead of a stayover event, students had fun thoroughout the camp leaving behind a lasting memory in them. Our dedicated teachers worked as "waitresses" during the fine dining segment!

Visit by President Halimah Yacob

Written by Mr Koh Teng Hock, Vice-Principal

There was a surge of excitement as the days approached 7 October 2020 as everyone in CPAS School was looking forward to a visit by President, Madam Halimah Yacob. Mdm President arrived at 10.30am, welcomed by the CPAS Board Chairman and Senior Management staff. Her first stop was School starting with Class 20A (School-to-Work class), where the students were hard at work crafting a formal email in their laptops. Mdm President was curious about the work that these students were performing and asked about their aspirations. She was pleased to hear from a few students who shared confidently.



Mdm President was talking to Teacher Michelle Chin from Class 20A to find out more about the lesson.

The next class that Mdm President visited was Class 8A (IT class). Students were learning to design artwork by combining different shapes and layering them using an online application. Mdm President was keen to participate, and together with student Yan Jiayi, she created a cute teddy bear using various shapes.

Moving on to her last stop in School, Mdm President stopped by the Life Skills Room 1, a smart kitchen that utilises Google Home. Class 7A (IT class) was learning to make a smoothie using an Assistive Technology (AT) device called



the Powerlink, connected to adaptive switches to activate a juice blender. Mdm President was impressed that students were able to overcome their physical limitations with the help of adaptive switches. Such AT devices increase the level of independency for students in CPASS.

It was definitely a day filled with many proud moments for students from these 3 classes when they interacted with Mdm President who was so warm and friendly.

Rachelle Lee (Eagle 7A) showing Mdm President how she could activate a blender using a head switch to make smoothie for the class.

CPAS School 2020 Term 4 Newsletter

Children's Day Celebration 2020

Written by Ms Julieh Chan, Teacher

In view of Covid-19 situation, 2020 Children's Day Celebration was not the usual mass gathering & celebration. The chosen theme was called "The Unusual Circus!". The celebratory mood started to build up from mid-September when the whole school was decorated with colourful buntings. On the actual day of the event, students were greeted by a special Circus entrance set up at the foyer and hand-painted animal mascots at various stations.

Activities were specially designed to allow students to participate in the comfort of their classrooms or with minimal interactions with other classes to ensure safe distancing. The students participated in a digital workshop customised by artistes from The Artground in their classroom. Activities that were conducted outside the classrooms included game booths, animal rides and trampoline stations. For their snacks, students enjoyed Popeyes chicken set, popcorns and ice-cream while watching a video with pre-recorded greetings from School staff.



Graduation 2020

Written by Mr John Liu, Teacher

Graduation 2020 was a grand and memorable event for everyone at CPASS, from the graduating students to the staff and all students in School. This was because it was the first graduation ceremony that was conducted online and it was the first graduation celebrated with the families of the graduating students as well as everyone at CPASS.

On 19 November, Graduation 2020 was held for 16 CPASS senior students via Zoom and for the first time in CPASS graduation history, every student witnessed the ceremony as compared to previous ceremonies where only the families of the graduating students would be present. It was a grand affair which begun with a speech by Principal, Mrs. Koh-Lim Ai Lay followed by an introduction of each graduate through a montage of their memorable journey at CPASS. It was both a poignant moment and celebration of sorts - of the completion of each graduate's educational journey in CPASS and the excitement of his/her transition into adulthood and life thereafter.

A graduation gift was prepared for and given to every graduate and it consisted the

graduation prom gown/suit, a personalized graduate teddy-bear, a personalized water bottle, four photographs of the graduate in his/her graduation prom gown/suit, and a thumb-drive capturing all the pictures and videos of each graduate's journey at CPASS.

After the Zoom Graduation ceremony, the exciting day continued with class parties for all students at CPASS in their individual classes. Snack bentos were provided to all students and staff to celebrate the end of the eventful year 2020!





Graduates in their tailored prom gowns/suits.

Lee Kuan Yew Exemplary Student Award 2020 Written by Ms Michelle Chin, Teacher

Lee Kuan Yew Exemplary Student Award (LKY ESA) honours students who have risen above their inherent challenges to motivate and inspire their peers. It recognises and affirms students who are role models of learning, dedication, perseverance and courage in areas such as academic, vocational, sports and arts as well as service to the community. This year, CPASS is proud to have Muhammad Firhad Bin Azhar (Eagle 20A) receiving this award. Firhad possesses qualities reflecting CPAS School values of Resilience, Integrity, Respect and Confidence. He was responsible in carrying out classroom tasks assigned to him and had earned the respect from his classmates and peers.

He demonstrated care and concern to fellow peers and teachers. He was also a good role model for his classmates. Firhad consistently carried out any duties in school with pride. As a School Prefect, he helped with grooming checks, assisted

in distribution of flyers, operated the PA system and represented School in numerous external events. He was also involved in community service projects when he helped in class-based food donation drive and donated food to the shelter in Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centre. Congratulations Firhad for receiving this welldeserved LKY ESA.



Muhammad Firhad Bin Azhar (Eagle 20A) received Lee Kuan Yew Exemplary Student Award during Graduation Ceremony in school.

2ND ITP Meetings with SG Enable School-To-Work Transition Programme

Written by Ms Irene Ho, Transition Planning Coordinator

On 30 October, the 2nd ITP meetings were conducted for three students, Thomas Ng Thiam Hock, Linus Chong Zai Ping, and Muhammad Firhad Bin Azhar (Eagle 20A) via Zoom. These meetings were between SG Enable (SGE) School-To-Work Transition Programme (S2W TP), CPASS team consisting of the class teacher, Job Coaches, Allied Professionals (APs), Transition Planning Coordinator (TPC), the students and their parents. The 1st ITP meetings and Pre-ITP meetings were held earlier on 3 July.

Due to the Covid-19 situation, both sessions of ITP meetings were conducted via Zoom. Individual meetings were conducted for each student where SGE discussed and confirmed the pathways for the students. For the three students, Thomas was proposed for Project-INternship (PIN), Linus was proposed for Further Training (FT), and Firhad was proposed for Supported/Customized Employment (SECE). At these meetings, parents were briefed on their roles in the programme because caregiver's involvement was most important for the success of the students in the SGE S2W TP. Therefore, the first caregiver briefing by SGE for the parents will occur on 10 December.

Project-INternship (PIN) is a 3-month employment training with 9-month internship with an employer where an allowance is given to the trainee. There will be on-site job coach support with phased fading. At the end of the internship, the trainee may be hired by the host employer or any other employer/organization.

Further Training (FT) is a 6-month employment training with 12-month work attachment with allowance. There will be supervision in small groups and rotation of different job roles during training to find the best job fit. There will be on-site job coach support with phased fading and the trainee may be hired by host employer or any other employer/organization.

Supported/Customized Employment (SECE) is for candidates who have secured employment with an employer/organization and they are paid a salary for working part-time or fulltime. There will be on-site job coach support with phased fading. They may remain employed with the employer or SGE may secure other job opportunities for him/her.

As these 3 students graduate into adulthood and employment, we wish them a bright future ahead!



These three young gentlemen are ready to work upon graduation from School.



Progress Report Meeting with Parents

Written by Ms Tan Chor Hui, Senior Teacher

Progress Report Meetings with parents began on 19 October and ended on 30 October. Due to Covid-19 situation, the usual face-to-face meetings were conducted via Zoom instead. The virtual conferences were hosted by the Trans D Team, comprising the respective class teachers together with the Allied Professionals. As each team shared the students' progress with the parents, photographs and videos on the students' performance progress were screen-shared too.

Ms Nur Irdayu Binti Abdul Kadir, class teacher of Dove 20B was conducting the virtual Progress Report Meeting with parents.

•., 🕏 Teachers' Day Celebrati©n 2020 🤹 ,•

Written by Ms Suzana Bte Ahmed, Head of Programme (High Support)

Teachers' Day in Singapore is celebrated annually on the first Friday in the month of September. It is an occasion to celebrate the relationship between school staff and the students. However, due to the Covid-19 situation and the strict SMM that the school has had to adhere to, the School decided to celebrate the occasion with a difference. This year, on the 3 September, CPASS had its first Teachers' Day celebration via Zoom for both morning and afternoon sessions. The emcees for that day was Lucas Chan (Eagle 10A) and Cheong Nur Faidisha Qistina (Eagle 8B). They exuded confidence and did a fantastic job hosting the event. CPASS students showed their appreciation to the staff via pre-recorded performances.

To show her appreciation to all the school staff, Mrs Koh (Principal) presented the Teachers' Day gift personally to all staff by going into their respective classes. Mrs Koh also presented Staff Awards to staff voted by their fellow colleagues. The deserving awardees in these 6 categories were:



Lucas Chan (Eagle 10A) was the Emcee for the morning session event.



Most Cheerful Staff Award: Ms Suzanna Ahmed, Ms Kan Yuan Ping, Ms Irene Seah and Ms Vanessa Kee Siyu

Most Helpful Staff Award: Ms Kathleen Mae Santos Lozano Most Diligent Staff Award: Ms Nur Faezah Abdul Rahman Most Generous Staff Award: Ms Lynn Sim Chai Leng Most Creative Staff Award: Mr John Liu Nam Keong Most Caring Staff Award: Ms Sahlaa Abdullah



In sum, everyone enjoyed themselves on that day. It was a day when students showed their appreciation in their own unique ways and for all staff to reflect and renew their commitment to give their best to the students.



Packets of assorted fruits were distributed individually to staff during the Fruits of the Month.



Update on Staff Engagement

Written by Ms Noredah Sim, Senior Teacher

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In the School's effort to recognise and affirm staff who have attained perfect attendance, the school with the help of the Staff Engagement (SE) team, presented staff with the termly Pink of Health Award. In term 3, the Pink of Health Award was awarded to 33 staff who have not missed a day of work. The semestral Pink of Health Award which was scheduled to be presented in June was suspended due to the disruption in school term schedule. Nevertheless, staff could look forward to the upcoming Semester 2 Pink of Health Award which would be awarded to staff who have achieved perfect attendance in Term 3 and 4.

To encourage healthy eating among the school staff, the SE team continued to promote the eating of fruits through the 'Fruits of the Month' activity. With the fruits being served

to staff on the third week of each month, the team hoped that it would pave the way to encourage all staff to incorporate more fruits in their daily meals.

Apples and longans were the fruits distributed in the month for October. Termly Pink of Health Award certificates



Updates on Staff Training

Written by Ms Tan Chor Hui, Senior Teacher

Building staff competency is a key focus in school and staff continuously receive training through different forms based on their identified needs.

In Term 4 2020, these were the training sessions attended by the staff:

Strategic Planning Workshop

Key personnel from the Staff Management Team, Administrative & Operational Manager, Domain Heads, the High Support Programme Curriculum Team and Transition Planning Team attended a two-day workshop conducted by Conjunct Consulting on 9 and 10 September. The School's Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Plan were revisited during those sessions.

Masterclass Career Development Techniques for Persons with Disabilities

The online course was organised by SG Enable for Job Coaches in the disability sector. They learnt how to establish strong working relationships with persons with disabilities. The Job Coaches also learnt how to develop and plan career paths with persons with disabilities in order to enhance their work performance and contribute to their success at work.

Story Massage

There were five modules in this online course organised by Story Massage Programme via www.storymassage@co.uk. Participants explored the importance of positive touch activities for all ages and abilities. They also learnt the Ten Story Massage strokes and how to adapt a familiar story or nursery rhyme as a massage story.



Ms Nur Faezah Binte Abdul Rahman, Head of Programme (Functional Programme) was presenting her group's discussion at the Strategic Planning workshop.

Contact Tracing

To ensure that we are able to contact all parents / guardians / caregivers for exigencies, and to help the school in communicating effectively, please inform your child's teacher of <u>any change</u> in the following:

• Contact details (mobile / email address / home telephone number)

Home address

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Important Dates in Term 1		
(4 January 2021 to 12 March 2021)		

Friday, 1 January 2021	New Year's Day
Monday, 4 January 2021	Start of New School Year
Thursday, 11 February 2021	Chinese New Year Eve (school operating hours will be from 8.00 am to 10.30 am)
Friday, 12 February 2021 * Saturday, 13 February 2021	Chinese New Year
Thursday, 18 February 2021	Total Defence Day Commemoration
Monday, 22 February 2021 to Friday, 5 March 2021	IEP Meeting
Tuesday, 9 March 2021	Prefects' Investiture
Saturday, 13 March 2021 to Sunday 21 March 2021	School Holidays

* Monday, 15 February 2021 will be a scheduled school holiday.

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