



From the Principal

Mr Simon Leese



frankly disappointed, and have never quite recovered.

The end of a term is a time to look back and to look forward, collectively and individually. We have had two external inspections, the Ministry of Education and COBIS. The former will tell us the outcome in February, and the preliminary report from COBIS arrived last week. We will be publishing the key findings next term. For now, comments from the report:

'The students love their school and show great attitudes towards learning' and 'Students, including boarders, are visibly happy to be here and proud of their school.'

Of the staff:

'There is a sense of cohesion across the staff and many examples of goodwill were evident. Staff in key roles, both teaching and non teaching, are clearly passionate about the school.'

The reason for selecting the COBIS process was its emphasis on school improvement, and we have the benefit of many recommended 'next steps' which will guide our own approaches to that continuous development.

Meanwhile, we find ourselves once again shortlisted in the TES awards; as the current holders of the 'International School of the



Year' title, back-to-back shortlistings is remarkable, this time for our innovative work on English development for our entrants. After this term's trial programme, we are now recruiting for a special pre-entry programme for term 3 of this year for year 7 entrants next September.

On Wednesday of this week, alumnus Mike Lim who has just completed his mandatory basic training with the Singapore Armed Forces, joined us in assembly to describe to the school his experience so far, since leaving POWIIS last year. In its relatively short life so far, POWIIS has built up a wealth of recent alumni experience to share with our current students. There IS life after POWIIS; we hope to give the very best help we can to start that next phase confidently.

Students now studying in the UK will be keenly following the Brexit situation. In tune with our recent Great Inter-House Christmas Bake-Off, someone asked whether we were about to see the [\(continued on pg2\)](#)

We approach the end of term, and look forward to the Christmas break ahead. I am always surprised at Christmas celebrations in Malaysia, but we all enjoy the opportunity to celebrate significant events from many cultures and religions. Christmas displays locally include dinosaurs and plenty of snowmen, apparently present at the birth of Jesus. I am going to England shortly for Christmas where equally ridiculous decorations spring up, but memories are important - I was cast as Joseph in my primary school nativity play. Although it was the main boy's part, I got to wear a tea towel on my head, while Herod had a magnificent headdress with peacock feathers. I was

Photo Gallery - Teachers' TLP (see page 6)



(From the Principal Cont.) Great Brexit Back Off! It is going to be an interesting Christmas for anyone with UK connections, whether personal, educational or business! However, we will all enjoy the season - unlikely inflatable snowmen and all. Do have a safe and happy festive period. ☺

Art Student of the Month (KS3/KS4)

Mrs Farida Khan-Evans



Our Artists of the month for November are Wei Tian Khor Year 10 and Karthik Narayanan Year 9. ☺

JSLA

Mr Liam Streat



Our Junior Sport Leadership Award (JSLA) students have been very busy lately helping St Christopher's International Primary School (SCIPS) host a primary athletics event for 420 students and more recently their inter-house football competition, both at Penang Sports Club. On both days the students represented POWIIS brilliantly and did so whilst developing their leadership skills in

high pressure situations with lots of staff and parents watching on. We had qualified leaders from years 11 and 12 acting as supervisors and then students from years 10 and 11 cohorts leading the events. I am proud of every single one of them and have had nothing but positive comments and feedback from everyone involved. Well done leaders! ☺



Baking Masterclass

Ms Suzie Allen

On Tuesday 11th December, the winning bakers of the Great Inter-House Christmas Bake Off attended a baking masterclass at Alliance Francaise De Penang where they learnt to master choux pastry. ☺



Table tennis and badminton tournament

Mr Edwin Lim



On the 29th November 2018, our students participated in the table tennis and badminton tournament (Under 15) at GEMS international school. After training for the whole term, it was a great opportunity for

them to put what they had learnt to test. The students had a pleasant experience playing with 3 other schools (GEMS, Fairview and Straits) and they were already excited about the next fixture, next term. ☺



Year 9 students hike up the hill behind Botanica to the Monk's house

Mr Stephan Doege

On Wednesday, 5th December, just the afternoon before the cross country, the entire group of Year 9 students hiked up the hill behind the school. It was a practice for our upcoming expeditions to Penang National Park and Cameron Highlands in Term 2 and 3. The students learned valuable lessons about hiking in the heat, the importance of hydration and navigation and - most importantly - about teamwork and supporting each other. ☺

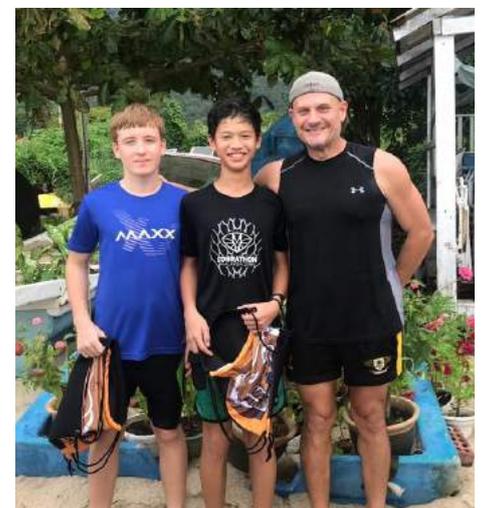


Cobrats Rugby club

Mrs Meillia Kee



Well done to Erin Kee (Under 12 mixed contact rugby squad) and to Sam Kee (Under 14 contact squad) who were two of the players of the Cobrats Rugby club who received awards last weekend. Cobrats Rugby club held it's annual beach party to celebrate another successful year of junior rugby in Penang. Coach Beau said on the day that "we are proud to be associated with POWIIS and it is wonderful that two of our Cobrat Spirit Awards go to POWIIS students." These awards go to players who have demonstrated the core values of rugby throughout 2018. ☺



WSC TOC 2018

Mr Darren Lim



Neither a snowstorm nor sudden frigid arctic winds could stop the POWIIS World Scholar's Cup delegation from doing their very best at the Tournament of Champions, held at Yale University just last week. The team was rewarded for their energy, effort and enthusiasm with a total of 14 gold medals and 19 silver medals, a respectable haul for a team comprising entirely of first timers competing at this stage!

Following a competitive week at Yale, our delegation spend the Thanksgiving weekend in the Big Apple, visiting key landmarks such as the Statue of Liberty, Times Square, the Museum of Modern Art, the United Nations, the 9/11 Memorial and One World Tower, while also partaking in the American tradition of Black Friday shopping. At the United Nations, the students were given a one-hour informative tour in which they were educated by a UN diplomatic officer on the roles and responsibilities of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the ECOSOC as well as the opportunity to be in these revered assemblies themselves. Meanwhile, at the Museum of Modern Art, our delegation saw first hand the original art pieces of famous works such as Vincent Van Gogh's famous "Starry, Starry Night". The delegation also had access to the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty to take in awesome views of the city, as well as an immersion of New York City culture on a subway tour as well as a visit to the famous Times Square shopping and dining area. Frigid cold, however, prevented them from witnessing one of America's biggest traditions, the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade. However, a long layover in Qatar enabled the delegation to visit Doha, which they opined was a "neater" and "futuristic" city compared to NYC. It was a certainly an eye-opening 11 days of rigorous competition

and an immersion into city life in both the West and Middle East, and what is most admirable (and deserve more than a hundred gold medals!) is how the students, especially 12 to 13 year olds, persevered through the challenges, horrid weather and fast-paced events independently and enthusiastically. We are in awe of your commendable demeanour.

My special thanks to Ms. Krisztina Mezosi, for being a wonderful chaperone and a kind "mother" who unconditionally cared for and cheered on our students in the face of every adversity that Mother Nature threw at us.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

1. RUBEN BAHR - Silver Medal in Literature Challenge, Silver Medal for Debate (Individual), Gold Medal - Challenge. He was in a mixed team with AFRINA HUSNA AZRIL IMRAN (MRSM ALOR GAJAH, MELAKA) and

AUBRIEL MUTIARA AZA NABABAN (Mentari Intercultural School Jakarta)

2. NICHOLAS LOW , DYLAN YEO, XI TIANHAO

- Gold Medal (46th place) in Team Debate
- Gold Medal (54th place) in Team Writing
- Gold Medal in Social Studies Challenge (Dylan Yeo)
- Gold Medal in Debate (Individual - Dylan Yeo)
- Gold Medal in Writing (Individual - Xi Tianhao)
- Silver Medal in Debate (Individual - Nicholas Low & Xi Tianhao)
- Silver Medal in Writing (Individual - Nicholas Low)
- Silver Medal in Arts and Social Studies (Xi Tianhao)

3. TAN YI HERN, JAENA VELTEN, XAVIER CHARLES LACEY

- Silver Medal in Quiz Bowl - 87th place (entire team)
- Gold Medal in Debate and Writing (Individual - Jaena Velten)
- Gold Medal in Social Studies and Science (Xavier Charles Lacey)

4. EMIR KAZIM YARAN, SACCINDRA MOORTHY

- Gold Medal (46th place) in Quiz Bowl (entire team)
- Silver Medal in Debate and Writing (individual - Emir Kazim Yaran)
- Silver Medal in Arts, History and Special Area: Human Relationships (Saccindra Moorthy)

Team achievements are placed out of 400 junior teams and 300 senior teams. 🏆

The Great Inter-House Christmas Bake-Off 2018

Ms Suzie Allen



This year's Great Inter-House Christmas Bake-Off challenge was to build gingerbread constructions. Each House volunteered three expert bakers who designed their own construction templates; ideas for builds included: a castle, a tree house, a robot and even a whole village! The teams had three hours to bake and build their gingerbread masterpieces and they all turned out beautifully.

On Wednesday, a French pastry chef came in to judge the House designs, their creativity and, of course, the all important taste. The 2018 Christmas Bake-Off winners were, for a second year running, Glamorgan! Well done



to Ming Min Teh, Daniel Lay and Nur Sofiyah Rohaizi all in Year 13.

At the same time, the staff competed to be crowned the POWIIS Christmas Star Baker. We had wonderful christmas bakes but the favourite of the judge was Ms Allen's orange, cranberry and white chocolate cake.

At lunch time, the Humanitarian Society organised a big cake sale of all the yummy baked goods. The gingerbread constructions were auctioned off - being sold for as much as RM102! A very successful amount was raised for charity: RM1600. 🍷

Year 10 IGCSE PE class

Mr Liam Street

Our year 10 IGCSE PE class had a lesson about intrinsic and extrinsic motivation this week and took part in a number of relays and races to get them to feel the different types of motivation. Please meet Kanako Shimobuchi who won the knockout basketball game, she was driven by the extrinsic motivation of fame. The group were told that whoever won would be famous on @POWIISSPORT instagram, POWIIS facebook and The Pulse. Well done Kanako and well done to the whole class for a fantastic first term! 🍷



Year 11 Art Trip to Georgetown

Kher Shin Goh



On Tuesday 4th December 2018, year 11 GCSE art students went on a trip to George Town to gather primary investigations in preparation for the upcoming GCSE art examination. This trip is to help support the assessment objective: record required by the exam board. First hand observational drawing and photos that were taken that day will be used as part

of the preparations.

Our first point was at The Esplanade, where we visited the art gallery of local artist, Tan Hon Yin. All of the works done by the artist throughout his lifetime were exhibited and acknowledged. We had the opportunity to study the artist's style, use of technique and

choice of subjects during our visit.

We even had a guided tour around The Blue Mansion. Hence, we learned about the history of the antique building. We spent some time capturing authentic photographs of the classical, ancient architecture. Our trip continued with exploring, strolling around Armenian Street, looking for artistic inspiration.

Lastly, we made our way to the Hin Bus Depot by foot under the scorching sun. We were given roughly 20 minutes to discover the aesthetic area, taking photos, sketching and having a break. We headed back to POWIIS afterwards.

Overall, the trip was a great chance for us to boost our imaginations and inspirations. A big thank you to Ms Khan-Evans and Ms Decoursey for their guidance along the trip! 🍷

Kangaroo Maths Problems

Mr Martin Clarke

Many thanks to all of the students/ parents that emailed in their solutions for Rita and Dita's balancing problem in the last issue of The Pulse. Rustam Fouret in Year 8 submitted a correct solution using "trial and improvement", a method where values are substituted into the equations in search of

the correct answer. An alternate algebraic method was to create two separate equations and solve them simultaneously. Dita finally weighed 5kg with Rita weighing 3kg.

This edition's challenge comes from a CADET paper aimed at students aged 13 to 14 years.

Please have students email maths@powiis.edu.my with the subject title as "MAMA" to ensure we can filter them out for checking. If you're sending in a response on behalf of your child, then please do include their name and house information. ☺

2. When the letters of the word MAMA are written vertically above one another, the word has a vertical line of symmetry. Which of these words also have a vertical line of symmetry when written in the same way?

Apabila huruf bagi perkataan MAMA ditulis secara menegak, perkataan tersebut mempunyai garis simetri secara menegak. Perkataan yang manakah yang turut mempunyai garis simetri secara menegak apabila ditulis dengan cara yang sama?

当 MAMA 里的字母被垂直写下来, 这个字有个垂直的对称线。请问下列哪个字用同样的方法写下来之后也会有个垂直的对称线?



(A) ROOT

(B) BOOM

(C) BOOT

(D) LOOT

(E) TOOT

Staff Tuesday Lunchtime Performance

Ms Jennifer Woolgar

Staff Tuesday Lunchtime Performance marked the last TLP of 2018! The excellent performances were solos by Ms Bennett, Mr Darren Lim, Ms Lufia Pang and Mr Ibrahim, accompanied by Mr Reeves, Mr Kam and Ms Woolgar. The performance rounded off with a fun 'Rudolf' ensemble. ☺



Important Dates for December 2018 & January 2019

[Click here for full
school calendar](#)

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 15th December | End of Term 1 |
| 2019 | |
| 6th January | Beginning of Term 2 |
| 7th - 23rd January | Edexcel & Oxford AQA Exams |
| 10th January | PSAC Tenby Invitational Netball |
| 14th January | Senior Boys Basketball/ U13 Boys Basketball vs Tenby |
| 14th - 18th January | Year 11 Mock Exams |
| 16th January | Swim Meet at POWIIS |
| 17th January | PSAC U16 Netball vs Tenby |
| 18th January | Senior Boys & Girls Basketball POWIIS vs Dalat |
| 18th January | U13 Boys & Girls Basketball at Dalat |
| 21st January | Thaipusam |
| 22nd January | Year 7 Parents' Reception |
| 23rd January | Year 13 Art Mock Exam |
| 23rd January | PSAC U18 Netball vs Tenby at POWIIS |
| 24th January | PSAC Athletics Track at City Stadium |

Entrance assessments are still possible by special arrangement and subject to available spaces. Please mention to friends and contacts who may wish to be included. Contact Michelle Goh at admissions@powiis.edu.my

Watch for future Pulse editions!