



From the Principal

Mr Simon Leese



I hope everyone enjoyed their CNY break; for us it was rather hectic, flying to London for the TES Awards event in which we were shortlisted for the second year running. Whilst supporting the event, we knew there was little or no prospect of winning our category again (though naturally deserving of it...) However the event was memorable for an individual award for Special Services to Independent Education given to a remarkable former colleague of mine in England, who spent no less than 40 years in the same school (where indeed I spent 22), and whose energy levels never faded in all that time.

At the same time, I have been reviewing a huge number of applications for roles at POWIIS from people who have moved schools every couple of years. There are pluses and minuses to both; there should be no generalisations. Some people have 40 years' experience, others have one year's experience 40 times - it depends on the individual. However, undeniably what frequent movers never enjoy is a lengthy connection with students as they mature from small boys and girls to young men and women; nor is it easy for them to develop a sense of ownership in their place of work, or commitment to an employer. There is

a danger that fulfilling a contract is a short term expedient for paying the bills, a mere pause in an episodic working life which draws most of its colour from aspects which are not to do with long term relationship building.

We are losing some fine colleagues this year, all of whom are challenging to replace, but who have pressing personal reasons for moving on. They do so with my blessing; it is a fact that those who have most opportunities for advancement and appropriate change, are often those you least like to lose. I look for future colleagues who have a body of substantial experience, usually in schools like ours, who have the right balance between variety and breadth of background, but also clear evidence of commitment. This year, we have achieved that remarkably well. As we bid farewell to colleagues who have been tremendous servants of the school, their replacements are a remarkable cohort. Most have some seniority, and this year all are from overseas - as such they are comparatively expensive. Some schools actively seek to minimise their salary spend; in so doing they may diminish that which we pursue relentlessly - quality of teaching and learning - and this is what parents value the most. Students currently need have no concerns about the quality of our new staff -



all will hit the ground running. I am absolutely delighted with our recruitment for next year.

Last week in assembly, our students had the opportunity to listen to Rebecca Wardell, a former New Zealand olympic athlete, who is currently cycling from Switzerland home to New Zealand. She spoke of the rigours and hardships of the trip, but also of the extraordinary kindness and generosity she has enjoyed on the way. As she was speaking, for some reason I recalled a word from my elementary German education, *menschlichkeit*. It would be translated as 'humanity - the positive manifestation of being human, or a person (*mensch*). Treating each other with kindness and generosity is natural and normal - but still we sometimes need to be reminded of it. We don't need to find someone doing thousands of kilometres on a bike to be kind to! ☺

POWIIS Open Day



A Culture of Excellence

**SEPTEMBER INTAKE
OPEN DAY**

2nd March 2019 (Saturday)
10am - 1pm

10:30am - Presentation
by Simon Leese, Principal

Guided School Tours available

POWIIS Volleyball Match

Mr Alan Reeves



Monday 11th February witnessed another thrilling volleyball match between POWIIS U18 Girls, led by Ying Yue Chew, with the Boys, led by Kah Shun Loh, against Tenby's highly trained sides.

All matches were vigorously fought, entering into lengthy amounts of extra time and POWIIS girls coming away winning their last game.

Well done to all involved. ☺

PSAC Track and Field Competition

Mr Liam Streat

POWIIS recently received second place in the PSAC Track and Field competition out of five international schools on the island. All students put in maximum effort for their school and should be very proud of what

they achieved. Special mention for Atalanta Sherwood who broke the PSAC High jump record as seen below. The next round is coming up in the next few weeks where we will look to do even better. ☺



IGCSE Music Workshop

Mr Ben Lim Teng Aik

All IGCSE Music students of Years 10 and 11 had a rare opportunity to have a 2-hour workshop on Gamelan (traditional Indonesian music) at The School of the Arts, USM. The students did not take long to learn the basics before moving on to more complicated techniques on their respective instruments, and finally performing several short pieces as an ensemble. A valuable learning experience indeed. ☺



Helping Hands: POWIIS LEOs Visit Rumah Seri Cahaya

Mr Darren Lim Jen Zen



Question any child in this day and age and you will find that while they recognise the importance of community service, not many of them will do it in their spare time.

Our student community in POWIIS is different and takes proactive steps to help people in need to the best that they can. This is evident through the many charitable efforts they have initiated.

As a member of the Lions Club International community service movement, the LEO Club of POWIIS has actively contributed to both the school and wider society through offering assistance to projects by the Humanitarian Committee, helping to decorate the school during major festivals, carrying out various initiatives to conserve the environment, as well as contributing their energy, skills and knowledge to help marginalised members of our society

via fund raising and teaching projects.

This Valentine's Day, our LEOs showered their love by visiting the residents of Rumah Seri Cahaya, a non-profit shelter for children and young adults from disadvantaged homes. It was a fun-filled afternoon as our team organised a UNO game competition and performed musical numbers to keep them in the festive mood. At the same time, some of our hard working LEOs helped clean the home and assisted with reorganising the library. However, given the wide range of books and stationery available and the lack of available manpower at the home to make the library a comfortable space for the residents to enjoy reading, we have discussed and committed to the possibility of helping Rumah Seri Cahaya remake their library as well as run a reading programme for their children from March, in an effort to develop a joy for reading among them.

The afternoon ended with the distribution of stationery goodie bags and food for each resident, all of which were purchased from proceeds of the Halloween Scare-to-Care 4 festival last November. Overall, it was an enlightening and satisfying afternoon for our LEOs as they fostered new bonds with the residents of Rumah Seri Cahaya, many of whom are of their age and share similar interests. With the future programmes we plan to initiate at the home, we hope the bonds fostered will continue to strengthen and that our LEOs will build confidence and empathy through their service. The LEO Club of POWIIS would like to thank Mr. Darren Lim, Mrs. Rachel Edwards and Ms. Nursyazwani Abdul Majid for their advice and dedication in preparing for and realising this community service visit. 🌟



2019 FOBISIA Drama Festival

Mrs April Boyd



The 2019 FOBISIA Drama Festival will be proudly hosted by POWIIS on Wednesday, 27 February to Saturday, 2 March. This year's theme is, "It's All Greek to Me".

The FOBISIA Drama Festival will bring a number of students together from 11 British international schools in Asia, of different countries and cultures. All will work together on shared interests to achieve a collective goal.

The students will be interspersed with each other and eight companies will be created. Within each acting company, the students will study and explore one from a selected five Classical Greek texts and be introduced to innovative ideas from renowned theatre practitioners as well as perform their version of the play to a modern audience.

Performances are considered a celebration of dramatic art, not a competition.

Performances will be held in the auditorium on Saturday, 2 March, the same day as POWIIS' Open Day, starting at 10:45 am.

If you have any questions about the event, please contact Mrs Boyd at: alb@powiis.edu.my

AIMS Secondary Orchestra and Choir

Mr Victor Kam Soo Teck



The AIMS Secondary Orchestra and Choir took place at the International School @ Parkcity on 16th - 17th of Feb. We had 17 students (Years 7-13) joining other international schools from around Malaysia in an intense and productive weekend of rehearsals, culminating to a Gala Concert which was highly impressive. Our students enjoyed themselves tremendously and

gained valuable experience performing in a 180-piece orchestra and choir. We are especially proud to highlight Drew Wong (Year 12) who was selected to be the Principal of the Second Violins while Khoo Shi Min (Year 11) took up the position of Principal of the Cello section. Very well done to all.



Kangaroo Maths Problems

Mr Martin Clarke

Well done to Goay Xin Liang of Rutland house for correctly solving the last edition's puzzle. This question comes from a Cadet level paper. Email your solution to maths@powiis.edu.my

9. When Simon the squirrel comes down to the ground, he never goes further than 5 m from the trunk of his tree. However, he also stays at least 5 m away from the doghouse. Which of the following pictures most accurately shows the shape of the region on the ground where Simon might go?

Apabila Simon si tupai turun ke tanah, dia tidak akan pergi lebih jauh dari 5m dari batang pokoknya. Namun begitu, dia juga tidak akan pergi lebih dekat dari 5m dari rumah anjing. Yang manakah di antara gambar berikut menunjukkan dengan paling tepat kawasan tanah yang boleh dilawat oleh Simon?

当松鼠Simon着地时,他与他的树干距离不超过5m。但是,他与狗窝的距离为至少5m。下列哪项最准确地画出Simon可能会去的区域?



Meet Our People



Ms Krisztina Mezozi

Ms Krisztina Mezozi joined POWIIS ESL Department at the beginning of 2017. After graduating with an MA in TESOL in Hungary, Krisztina worked for ten years in advertising before starting teaching in primary and secondary schools in Hungary. Before coming to POWIIS she worked as an English Language Mentor in Malaysia, as part of the Malaysian Ministry's Programme. Teaching

Malaysian, Chinese, and Indian school students has broadened her understanding of the challenges that these students face when learning English as a Second Language.

At POWIIS she is teaching English as an Additional Language to KS3 and KS4 students in small groups. The best part of her job is to see how quickly students acquire the language and how pleased they are when they succeed

in expressing themselves in English. She enjoys the diversity of students and teachers at POWIIS. Each and every student is unique and they bring a varying set of values, perspectives and beliefs to the learning environment. She is also keen on understanding the character of students and sets exercises in the lessons accordingly. POWIIS provides fertile soil for students to show their talent in various competitions and helps them to set firm ground for their future studies. She enjoys working in POWIIS as she finds that it offers a friendly and supportive working environment that gives her the opportunity to learn and grow.

Krisztina says she loves how the different cultures and religions live together in Penang. In her spare time, she likes visiting all the colourful festivals on the island, sitting in cafés in the heritage area of Georgetown or climbing to the top of one of its many beautiful hills to have a different view. She also enjoys facilitating free-form dance classes, practising yoga, or going to concerts. ☺

MSSPP Table Tennis Tournament

Mr Edwin Lim Chii Wei



On the 11, 12 and 15 February, our table tennis players competed in the MSSPP Balik Pulau zone table tennis tournament. There were more than 20 schools involved and our players were fantastic. Below are the results from the tournament.

Team Champion - Boys under 18

1. Teoh, Jia Rong
2. Junnosuke Aioi
3. Patrick Choi
4. Tan, Gui Fu
5. Chu, Jia Zheng

Team Champion - Girls under 18

1. Chen, Tian Ying
2. Khoo, Shi Min
3. Deong, Min Xuen
4. Deong, Min Yu
5. Prim Musikabhumma

Doubles Champion - Girls under 18

1. Chen, Tian Ying
2. Khoo, Shi Min

Doubles 1st runner-up - Girls under 18

1. Deong, Min Xuen
2. Prim Musikabhumma

1st runner-up - Boys under 18

1. Teoh, Jia Rong
2. Junnosuke Aioi

2nd runner-up - Boys under 18

1. Tan, Gui Fu
2. Chu, Jia Zheng

Singles Champion - Girls under 18

1. Chen, Tian Ying

1st runner-up - Boys singles under 18

1. Teoh, Jia Rong

The qualifiers will be competing in the state level next week. Good luck. ☺

Important Dates for February & March 2019

[Click here for full
school calendar](#)

23rd February	PSAC Senior Boys Basketball at Dalat
26th February	U15 Boys Football VS SIS at SIS
27th February	World Music Percussion Workshop
27th February - 2nd March	FOBISIA Drama Festival
27th February	World Music Percussion Workshop
2nd March	Open Day
2nd March	POWIIS Ball - Six Feet Under the Stars
2nd March	Year 9 Parents Reception & Options Day
5th March	U15 Boys and Girls Football vs Dalat at POWIIS
7th March	PSAC Field Events at Dalat
8th - 9th March	DofE Bronze Practice
8th March	Entrance Assessment Day
8th March	PSAC Athletics at City Stadium
11th - 15th March	Science Week
12th March	IGCSE English Speaking Exams
12th March	U15 Boys & Girls Football vs SIS at POWIIS
16th - 17th March	School Production Rehearsal Camp
18th March	Trinity Exam Week 1
18th March	Open Netball at POWIIS
19th March	Year 12 Parents' Reception
19th March	Uplands Touch Rugby
20th March	U15 Boys & Girls Football at Dalat
21st - 23rd March	School Production Performances

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!