BOARDERS
POWIIS BOARDING BULLETIN
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Welcome Address

Message From the Head of Boys Hall

Mr Eccles
Head of Boys Hall



Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of Term 2, we are delighted to share with you a very special edition of our boarding newsletter. For the first time, this issue has been fully student-led, created and produced by members of our Boarding Council. Since its inception just over two years ago, the council has gone from strength to strength, and it is wonderful to see our students now taking real ownership and pride in shaping how boarding life is shared with our community.

This edition places our students firmly at its heart. Within these pages, you will find a collection of their stories and successes—from sporting achievements and performances to personal reflections on life in boarding. Our students have also contributed a range of helpful tips and strategies for success, both in school and beyond, offering valuable insights drawn from their own experiences.

The initiative, creativity and collaboration demonstrated throughout the production of this newsletter have been truly impressive. It reflects not only the growing confidence and leadership of our boarders, but also the strong sense of community that continues to define boarding life here in Penang.

We are incredibly proud of all that our students have achieved this term and look forward to seeing the Boarding Council continue to develop their ideas and initiatives in the future. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm Regards,
Mr Eccles

Opening

This term, we've taken a fresh approach to boarding life, with the Boarding Council proudly putting together this newsletter to highlight the experiences, achievements, and moments that made it memorable.

Chinese Lacquer Fan Making

This week, we guided students in creating traditional Chinese lacquer fans, one of the Chinese cultural heritage.

Students explored the art of Chinese lacquer craftsmanship by designing and making their own decorative fans. Inspired by cultural patterns and their own creativity, they experimented with colours, textures, and techniques to produce unique pieces.

In addition, students were introduced to the concept of Zaojing (藻井), a traditional decorative ceiling design, and incorporated its intricate patterns into their own Zaojing-inspired fans.









Diamond Art

Boarders spent the morning carefully placing tiny, colourful gems to build up intricate designs, showing both patience and attention to detail.

It was a relaxing break from the usual routine, giving everyone a chance to unwind while creating something they could be proud of.

The activity also encouraged conversation and collaboration, as boarders admired each other's progress. By the end of the session, the room was filled with vibrant pieces that all students that participated were proud of.









Sports Accomplishments

U15 PSAC Netball



Our U15 Girls showed resilience and never gave up as they finished 4th in the U15 Netball PSAC. Kanami, Emi, Angela and Xin Er showed great teamwork as they worked hard as a team in both boarding and in training.

U19 Basketball Boys



It was an undefeated season for the U19 Boys Basketball as they finished strong in their last game against Stonyhurst where they won 51-42 against them who were "State Champions". Bryan and Zijian worked hard in every basketball ECA on every Monday and showed great skills and communication which worked as they had an undefeated season , beating Uplands and as well as Sri KDU.

U19 Basketball Girls



Although our U19 girls didn't get many games , they showed great teamwork and worked hard in training. Jessica, Manamrit, Maboruka and Anne attended every basketball training session and showed commitment.

U13 FOBISIA Games



It was a successful trip as our U13 team won many medals and trophies in the FOBISIA Games. Wilmer and Japan worked hard on every Powiis Project as they showed great teamwork in FOBISIA and brought some trophies back from there.

Musical Features



Amy

She gave a graceful and expressive performance that created a calm atmosphere, of 'Ballade pour Adeline'.

She shared that her choice was inspired by childhood memories of her piano teacher constantly listening to the piece, which led her to fall in love with its beauty from a young age.



Christy

She has delivered a lively and engaging performance, showcasing her vocal talent through a diverse mix of songs including 'don't stop me now, One and only, Zombie and the Indonesian folk song Ras Sayange'.

She explained that her focus on music from the 1970s to 2000s reflects her love for band style music, as well as her teacher's preferences. Her combined energy and emotion, creates a performance that was both enjoyable and memorable for the audience.



Noah

She delivered a powerful and expressive performance of 'Por una cabeza'.

Inspired by its use in Scent of a woman, she was drawn to the emotional depth and striking tango scene that highlights themes of connection, confidence and resilience. Originally composed by Carlos Gardel, the piece carries a sense of passion and intensity, which she brought to life through her playing.



Violet

She gave a heart felt performance of 'love is gone' drawing the audience in with its emotional tone and atmosphere. While she chose the song spontaneously, it turned out to be a powerful choice.



Zillyan

He performed two well-loved songs, Ketipak Ketipung Raya and Selamat Hari Raya, which beautifully combine both traditional and modern elements of Raya music. For many Malays, these songs are timeless classics. Whether heard in shopping malls or at home, they are an essential part of the festive atmosphere.

He would like to extend a special thank you to his friends Bayar, Woojin, for coming together and trusting him to lead them. Their appreciation and dedication was truly appreciated in the end when they performed brilliantly. His gratitude also goes to Sir Lim Lai Hock and Mr Ibrahim for their support in making the band sound more lively and complete.

He reflected on how adding more musical layers creates a richer listening experience, highlighting what makes music so unique. He encourages others to take part in band practices and perform with their friends, noting that it is not only a valuable learning experience but also far more enjoyable than practising alone.



Woojin and Bayar

Woojin and Bayar shared that they really enjoyed performing at the Hari Raya TMP, describing it as a fun and memorable experience. They especially appreciated the chance to play well-known festive songs which made the performance feel even more meaningful.

They also highlighted how performing together as a group made the experience more enjoyable, as everyone supported one another throughout rehearsals and on stage. Overall, they felt the performance was a great success and something they would remember fondly.



Jimmy

He delivered an engaging and culturally meaningful dance performance during the Hari Raya assembly.

His performance not only showcased his talent and confidence but also celebrated the spirit and traditions of Hari Raya, bringing energy and pride to the event. It was a memorable moment that highlighted the diversity and vibrancy of our boarding community.



Kayal

She delivered a captivating homage acting inspired by Hansel and Gretel.

She shared that her passion for acting comes from the joy it brings her, as well as the encouragement of her supportive teachers.

Her performance was confident, bringing the story to life while reflecting both her enthusiasm for acting and the guidance she received along the way. Reflecting the community that she is surrounded by.

Art Features

Ziqi







This book is drawn and illustrated by Ziqi Lian (Year 13)

This artwork by Ziqi is inspired by the idea of a "digital pet," which brings comfort and emotional support in everyday life.

Ziqi shared that even without much social interaction, her digital pet makes her feel happy and relaxed, and she believes that in today's fast-paced society, everyone has their own version of a "digital pet" that provides comfort and healing in different ways.

The artwork shows warm and peaceful daily life moments, such as eating and doing homework together, using soft colours and a gentle illustration style to create a calm and comforting atmosphere.

Through this piece, Ziqi also hopes to raise awareness and understanding of autistic children and individuals with social disorders, encouraging people to show more empathy and appreciation for different ways of experiencing comfort and connection in everyday life.



This is the work produced by Xin Zhuo (Naomi, Year 11)

Naomi

The artpiece is an IGCSE draft artwork by Naomi captures a quiet and peaceful moment in everyday life, showing through a crowded urban scene with an angel watching people on earth gently from heaven above.

Naomi shared that she did not begin the drawing with a fixed idea in her mind, she simply just wanted to draw an angel and explore the feeling of peacefulness and relax in daily life. As the work developed, the angel naturally became a symbol of holiness, protection, and also a calm presence within a busy and crowded world. What makes Naomi's piece stand out can be seen through the way she combines ordinary human activity with a spiritual and peaceful element. Even though the environment appears crowded and active, the angel can also be a reminder for viewers to appreciate peaceful moments in everyday life. The detailed figures, layered composition, and soft shading by the charcoal show how Naomi is developing her confidence and creativity.

(Disclaimer: This artwork is shared for viewing purposes only as the IGCSE examination period is not yet over. Please do not copy, reproduce, or share this artwork with others without the artist's permission.)

Ping

The artwork is another IGCSE draft but this time by Ping, inspired by her baby sister, who recently just turned three.

In this art piece, her aim is to capture a quiet moment through the simple image of a pink cake with a single candle in front of the girl.

Ping explained that she wanted to explore the play of light and the surrounding setting, focusing on how a child feels with small, everyday wonders. As the drawing developed, it came to convey the sense of isolation and limited understanding that a child experiences in the outside world, highlighting how early childhood can feel both limited and have freedom to express every thought they had at the same time.



This artwork is drawn by Romrumpa (Ping, Year 11)

What makes Ping's work particularly pop-up is the way she combines a familiar scene which can happen in all households but with an extended emotional depth, this encourages viewers to reflect on the quiet, often overlooked moments of younger kids and the gentle curiosity they had.

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Greet Boarders in Their Own Language!

When you walk past others, try saying hi in their language even if it's not your first language. It doesn't have to be perfect and it's okay to mispronounce the word. What matters is the effort you put in and kindness behind it.

Mandarin Chinese

你好 Nǐ hǎo

Mongolian

Сайн байна уу
Sain baina uu

Norwegian

Hei Hay

Thai

สวัสดี Ŝwạ̄sdī

Bidayuh

Kudu Koo-doo

Spanish

Hola Oh-la

Malay / Indonesian

Halo / Hai Ha-lo / Hi

Korean

안녕하세요
Annyeonghaseyo

Japanese

こんにちは
Kon'nichiwa

Hindi

नमस्ते Namaste

Swedish

Hej Hey

French

Salut Salou

How Are You Dealing With Stress During the Exam Season?

As you go up in school grade, you are getting more and more exams which might stress you out. In order to reduce stress, well-management skills for your study schedule is an essential key. This time, we would like to introduce seniors who are dealing with their exams and busy schedules well!

Student A (Weekdays schedule)

After school
3:00~6:00 Free time (Usually taking a nap)
6:00~6:30 Dinner

After Dinner
7:30~9:00 Study time (Doing coursework)

After 9 O'Clock
Preparing for tomorrow, getting ready to go to bed

After school, I am usually tired, so taking a break or nap makes me more productive, so I can concentrate on my study more after dinner.

Student B (Weekend schedule)

Morning
8:00 Wake up
8:30~10:00 Morning revision of what I studied last night
10:00~12:00 Saturday activity
12:00~13:00 Lunch break

Afternoon
13:00~14:30 (Session 1) Usually doing math
15:00~16:30 (Session 2) Doing favourite subject
17:00~18:30 (Session 3) Subject requires memorisation

Night
18:30~19:00 Dinner
19:00~19:30 Free time
19:30~20:30 (Session 4) Do homework

Before going to bed, review the memorisation subject again

According to the information, humans can be most productive in the morning, so I always do the subject that I don't feel like doing or revising what I studied the day before.

For the afternoon study session, I tend to be unproductive and unable to concentrate compared to morning, so I usually do math which I can naturally concentrate on, or the subject I like.

During the free time after dinner, I sometimes do exercise which helps improve blood flow in my brain.

And at the end of the day, which is just before going to bed, I revise the subject which is usually memorizing stuff so all the memories are consolidated during sleep.

These small study tips can help you study in a more productive way. What matters is how well you concentrate rather than how long you study each day, so structuring a study schedule can help reduce stress, especially during exam periods.

Ultimately, studying smarter—not just longer—can make a significant difference in your academic success.