

# THE PHOENIX TIMES

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION OF CHATSWORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL(BT)

ISSUE I | VOLUME VI | October 2018



**Emerald Hill**



**'Bukit Timah Hill'**



**Inspire**



**Educate**

**Enlighten**

## Changing view points.....

New Bukit Timah campus, new uniforms, new teachers, new friends, whole new location, and a very different environment. Of course, it's been a difficult stride into the new school year, with a huge campus and the race for shuttle buses, but it's been a great first week of school. One of my favourite parts of the new campus is the new arts and physical activity facilities.

Unlike the Orchard campus, it's clearly a bigger school, however, it doesn't change our community. With places like the nest to eat our lunch, new music band practice rooms, brand new black box, swimming pool, gymnasium, the trail through the forest, and of course, the art rooms.

Personally, I really enjoy the new art rooms especially, including the new practice rooms, a black box, and visual arts rooms. The new band rehearsal rooms give us a place to go during our breaks and express ourselves to full extent now that there are multiple music rooms, which I am very familiar with by now. The new black box is for most of the drama classes which are always blasted with air conditioning, and filled with brilliant actors in the making. Last but not least, we can't forget the new visual arts rooms that now have *five* sinks, and more space for our creative minds to not only be spread out onto a piece of paper but canvases, walls, multimedia.



While we are advancing into the school year, all of our classes have been put into full swing. For example, in our Year 9 art classes, we have started our unit "Changing Viewpoints", which isn't only about the excitement of using multimedia and different styles/genres of art, but the way we're changing and growing in our new campus. Our unit "Changing Viewpoints" is about taking something simple such as a piece of fruit, a wine glass, lamp, anything still and simple, and adding onto it, advancing, and transforming it into something meaningful, unique, and different from how other people see it, growing emotion and life into something still. That's what we're doing this year. We're developing and building a truly close and warm community (as it is Singapore), and coming together.

- Aruna Silva, IB MYP3

# Miah and Denver

Our Year 9 student, Miah O'Donnell recently won a show jumping contest at the Bukit Timah Stable Club and I was there to watch it happen. I was so impressed by her accomplishment I decided to interview her to find out what it takes to be good at something that difficult and terrifying.

**Mr Eades** - Miah, you and your Horse, Denver recently won the Bukit Timah Stable club's show jumping competition. What was the height of the fence you jumped over and how old are you?

**Miah** - We jumped 1.25 meters and I'm 13 years old

**Mr Eades** - So, as a 13 year old, how are you braver than me? Do you have nerves of steel?

**Miah** - No. I was really scared, but the girl competing against me was really good so I tried to be confident and then thought maybe we could become friends.

**Kimaya** (there in the interview for moral support) - You do know this is going into the school newspaper.

**Miah** - Yes, I know but she's so good.

**Mr Eades** - So you won a show jumping contest to make a new friend???

**Miah** - Yes.

**Mr Eades** - When you were coming up to the final jump I was thinking how funny it would be if you fell off, what was going through your mind?

**Mr Eades** - How long have you been riding horses?

**Miah** - Since I was two, you know I used to go riding on the beach with my Mum and Dad.

**Miah** - I've been competing for 3 years now.

**Mr Eades** - What is the hardest part of horse riding?

**Miah** - Probably keeping control

**Mr Eades** - Of yourself or the horse?

**Miah** - The horse, as at any moment the horse can just throw you off and you have to tell the horse that you are in charge and would prefer not to plummet to the ground.

**Mr Eades** - Final question, Your horse is called Denver. Is he named after John Denver?

**Miah** - Yes



"In a way, I like it because I got to do different subjects that were interesting, such as drama, but sometimes I don't prefer being a secondary student because it's a bit hard and there's a lot of homework. But overall, it's fine"- *Vardhan*

"It is fine, but it is a bit harder than I expected. The challenging thing is that there's lots of homework" - *Mazkuki*

"It was really weird because I have only been in Chatsworth for 1 year, but it has also been exciting because I really wanted to know what is like to be in secondary." - *Myra*

"I, as an MYP 1 student, felt nervous and worried at the beginning. However, I believe that Chatsworth supports us, made us comfortable. I am confident to speak to my teachers and counselor on how we felt as new students to Secondary." - *Ayaka*

Most of the MYP 1 students must have felt nervous, anxious and excited about moving to secondary. Everyone was new to the Bukit Timah Campus and to secondary. Let's hear some of the MYP 1 students voice on how they felt and how they feel now.

"This was a big change in my life because moving into a new campus and moving into MYP at the same time was similar to doing two things at once! Moving into secondary made me feel nervous but now, I am enjoying it." - *Ayat*



## ACSIS League Update

### U14 Girls Badminton

Chatsworth Phoenix 0-5 GESS  
Chatsworth Phoenix 0-5 UWCD  
Nexus 4-1 Chatsworth Phoenix

### U14 Boys Badminton

Chatsworth Phoenix 1-4 UWCE  
TTS Eagles 4-1 Chatsworth Phoenix

### U19 Girls Football

CIS 5-0 Chatsworth Phoenix  
SJII 2-0 Chatsworth Phoenix

### U16 Boys Football

HCIS 5-4 Chatsworth Phoenix  
DCIS 1-2 Chatsworth Phoenix  
ACSI 4-6 Chatsworth Phoenix  
SAS 0-5 Chatsworth Phoenix

## The MYP Personal Project: What is in Store?

Despite its annual occurrence in our academic life, the first day of school is almost always a memorable one, and justifiably so. It symbolises a milestone, being the day in which we embark upon a new journey towards personal growth as individuals and students. The August of 2017 was no exception, when a remarkably clement weather complemented the first day of Year 11 for the class of 2020. Although the responsibility on our shoulders was significant and the academic year ahead of us a momentous one, we were determined to put forth the best versions of ourselves to greet it. It was on this very day that we officially began another journey, on the subject of which we had no prior experience, and something that would soon turn out to be our first successful attempt at conducting a completely independent long-term research endeavour - The MYP Personal Project.

Right at the outset, when the initial step was to actually select a foundational idea around which to base our respective projects, the aforementioned words spoken by actor Will Rogers clearly highlighted a path towards which we had set out to work. It was almost as if it was a step-by-step guideline to successfully reaching a positive outcome as a result of the developmental process which we would soon be undertaking. At that time, however, our priorities lay around brainstorming a list of plausible project ideas, and then evaluating all of them in totality. By the time this exercise had concluded, each and every individual had a topic for their respective projects selected and justified. It was eminently interesting to see how everyone's ideas were clearly reflective of their personal interests and hobbies. One project was about learning how to play the ukulele, while another was about developing a video game from scratch. It was this wide range of ideas that, combined together, would result in a truly fascinating project exhibition roughly 5 months later. As we look back at the time nearly a year ago, the Personal Project seems to have been a truly constructive experience, in which all of us had known what we were doing.



## A New Chapter...

From Emerald Hill to Bukit Timah the students at Chatsworth seem to be settling into our new campus and our new home extremely well. Though we will miss getting Koi after school in the old campus, Chatsworth Bukit Timah has so much more to offer! Located amidst lush greenery and next to Singapore's nature reserve, Chatsworth Bukit Timah is the latest addition to Chatsworth Group of Schools. The change of scenery being amongst the forests is refreshing compared to the cluster of Orchard Road, although there is the occasional monkey or snake. The first few days of school were daunting and I think we can all admit to getting lost around the campus, but after a while, it wasn't so confusing anymore as the layout is easy to remember with each block being designated for a certain group of subjects. In addition, the sports facilities have definitely seen an upgrade which we can all be excited about. We finally have big indoor basketball courts, a beautiful swimming pool (with a vending machine), and a football pitch which we never had before. Sports at Chatsworth is only going to get better over the years with all the amazing facilities available to practice. Next, we have "The Nest" which is the centre



or nucleus of the school, a place everyone can gather when there are special events or announcements, bake sales, musical performances and many more. The lively atmosphere brings about a sense of community for everyone at Chatsworth. After receiving the keys on August 1st 2018, the new Bukit Timah Campus represents a new chapter and milestone for Chatsworth and its ever-loving community. - *Nitya IBDP2*



## Chats Geography



## Chats bites....



In a key handover ceremony on 1st August, 2018, our principal, Mr Sherwood received the keys for our new campus from the GESS administration.

Lunch time entertainment by students and teachers.



## Secondary Parents Night

Secondary Night took place on 29th August. It was informative and engaging, and especially helpful for the Y13s. This definitely stressed us out, but we all know that if we are willing to commit effort and time, the ordeal will be worthwhile.

Our University Advisor, Mr. Hudson, also introduced us the idea of settling down in a new place and starting a new chapter of our lives in about a year. Everyone looks forward to the goal of being able to go to the university and complete the course of our dreams. There is a wide variety of interests in terms of subject field and countries within our year group, although there are only 18 students in the year group, Ms. Saxena, also emphasised to us the importance of our piling and pressing deadlines. However, she definitely gave us the necessary mental assurance that our hard work will eventually pay off. It seems intimidating and scary, but our cohort will definitely survive this! - *Ming Chuen IBDP2*

## The Chats Service Program

I think that by giving students an opportunity to choose what they want to do with more variety, the school is growing towards making students more motivated to participate in service. In previous years, service has always seemed like something that students don't enjoy too much, simply because the organisations that they are working for don't interest them. By offering more options, students will be able to do what they love, while also helping their families and friends, as well as our national and school community, develop and grow. I'm glad that we are getting the option to participate in service activities that involve arts. This is a good chance for us to express our creativity, while also working together to help our community.

I appreciate that the school is letting students take the lead on more events this year. It is good preparation for our future, and it also helps us develop our leadership skills. In pastoral/flexi lessons, I hope that students will be able to suggest topics of discussion every now and then, instead of teachers always talking about topics that don't necessarily have to do with the students. It is good for teachers to lead conversations about a lot of things, but every now and then, I think it would be a good idea to let students express their concerns. - *Nina Issel, IB MYP3*

### Birthday Breakfast

Chatsworth staff at Bukit Timah campus do a monthly birthday breakfast where every member from a particular department brings in a treat to celebrate birthdays in that month. August birthdays were celebrated by the Lang. and Lit. department and the September birthdays were celebrated by the LOTE/EAL department.



The Phoenix Times



#### **Contributor**

*Aruna Silva*

*Ayaka*

*Ayat*

*Karthikeya*

*Ming Chuen Chong*

*Miah*

*Nina Issel*

*Nitya*

*Mr Eades*

*Mr Thinagar*

#### **Photographer**

*Warren Wee*

*Ms Pearlie*

#### **Editor**

*Ms Elizabeth Scott*

*Ms Kate Loke*

#### **Advisor**

*Ms Harparsh Saxena*

