

## CHATSWORTH UN DAY 2020

“shaping our future together”



This year, Chatsworth celebrated the United Nations Day on 7th October with the theme ‘shaping our future together’. Some of the events were modified or cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. All the activities were limited to year groups and no guests were invited including parents. Throughout the one month of preparations, I realised how meaningful UN Day is for Chatsworth. It is the annual celebration where our unique and diverse school community gathers.

Although parents and guests were not able to participate physically in our celebration they have shared their well wishes by sending in recorded videos. These videos were broadcasted during the secondary assembly that took place virtually. Primary performances were pre recorded and shared with the parents on the event day. Thank you to Mr Griffiths and Mr Marcelo for their wonderful initiative and effort to record and share the primary performance with the parents.

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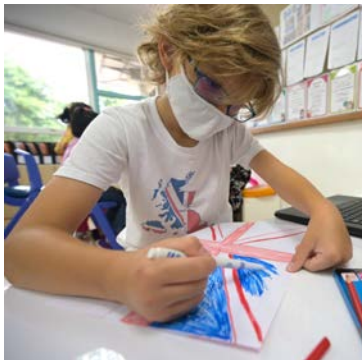




The UN Day organising committee was led by Mr Thinagar and consisted of Year 13 students. We made banners and decorations and prepared the various activities. The decorations were mostly hand made using our creativity; they turned out to be really nice. A day before UN Day, we decorated the whole school. On the event day, everyone wore their own national/ethnic clothing. It was very interesting to see the rich cultural diversity at Chatsworth.



Overall, UN Day is a very important event for the Chatsworth community. As part of the committee, I am really proud of what we had prepared. The objective of this event is to appreciate and value each culture in our community and I can proudly say that we have achieved this even though there are COVID-19 restrictions in place. I look forward to next year's UN Day. - Jessica Cohen



# UN Day 2020



## ***When the Earth Went Dark*** **- Wildaan Ahmad**

Before the Blindings, all John had to think about was doing his job at the office. But things tend to get trickier when you can't see. Even now he still felt great difficulty in finding his way into the office building. He rustled around his pockets for his keycard, and felt around the concrete wall for the door. *"Two years,"* he mumbled, talking to no-one in particular. *"Two years of darkness and this never gets easier."* He slid his keycard on the reader. It gave a dissonant ring in response. Pushing past the glass door, he paused for a moment, hearkening for anyone in the room. He smiled to himself. *"Early again."*

Walking through the deserted corridor he let his mind waver. His first mistake.

The hardest part of the job wasn't the plethora of braille paperwork that begged to be finished by 5 in the afternoon. It wasn't how his office phone never ceased to stop ringing. It wasn't the constant vexing from his boss, or the uncontrollable irk he felt every time he spoke. It was keeping his mind busy.

Idling was dangerous. It would bring him back there. It wouldn't be swift. It would be slow, it would be insidious. His mind worked like nomads in barren desert, jaunting a torpid jaunt through the endless dunes of his memories. Walking through the corridor, his brain went to that place. Before he could do anything, he was transported.

He remembered when the whole world went blind. There were no warnings, no way for the human race to prepare for what was about to befall on them. Like lone prey the Blindings pounced and attacked, and left its victims in a state of darkness.

He remembered when Earth went dark. There were no warnings, no way for humanity to prepare. There was no way to claw out from the grip of it. As if they were lone prey, the Blindings pounced and attacked, and left again as silently as it came.

*When the Earth went dark*



Walking back from work was when it hit him. He remembered standing by the pavement when his vision was suddenly ripped away from him. At first he thought something was caught in his eye, but a sudden wave of primal, terrible, fear washed over him when his sight didn't return. He started breathing uncontrollably, and in a matter of seconds he collapsed on the pavement, desperately wishing for the nightmare to end. The road was a bonfire of vehicles, he heard the wails of car alarms resonate through the air, mixed in a dreadful concoction of ear-splitting screeches of tires on asphalt.

Little did he know that all seven billion people on Earth were also swiftly brought down, living the same hellish nightmare as him. And they remembered that day. The day that humanity was brought to its knees.

He gasped back into reality. He found himself crouched over, one hand on the wall and one on his knee. His head was pounding. Waves of nausea washed over him, a grim He leaned on the wall, and hobbled his way to the bathroom.

To be continued...

On November 23, Sports Teams and CCAs for Session 2 kicked off! It was a welcoming sight for many students after a two week break from Session 1. It was also great to see sports teams resume after being suspended since February 2020. This includes U19 Boys / Girls Basketball, U14 Boys / Girls Football and U19 Boys / Girls Ultimate Frisbee. Even though these teams are unable to compete against other schools at the moment, training together (with COVID-19 safety measures in place) every week gives these students more opportunities to improve their fitness and social interactions. Students also had the option to change activities from Session 1. Mr Ballgobbin's MUN CCA had their first conference in October (Virtual) which proved to be successful and enjoyable for students to interact with others from various international schools around Singapore. TedEx Chatsworth is also organising an event in February 2021. The student organising committee guided by Mr Newberry and Mr Desmond have worked hard and we are all looking forward to what they have planned! Our Secondary teachers are very creative with the types of CCAs being offered such as Cooking, Running, Photography and many more. I am also very glad to welcome Chatsnews back to the fold. We have very much missed having our weekly news and weather! I hope the students will enjoy their choices of activities for Session 2.



## Deepavali Celebration



In celebration of Deepavali (or Diwali) festival, our Kindergarten learners had an enjoyable time designing beautiful rangoli with petals of flowers and fun art and craft.





**Primary Christmas Concert**  
 Primary students performed their best in the virtual Christmas concert, as with a surprise performance by the teachers. Support them by watching their amazing performances via the video links sent to your inbox!



**Design**  
 This semester the Year 9's have been working on their own chess piece designs via a 3D modelling program during Design lessons. Here's a range of their design works printed using state-of-the-art 3D printers.



**Around the school in one page**

**Y6 and Y7 Numeracy Collaboration**  
 Year 6 and Y7/8 Math teachers met to collaboratively plan a numeracy team teaching opportunity for the Y6s. The idea is that each Y6 homeroom will take turns to come to Ms Carbajal's classroom to have a Math lesson with her some time in January.



**Y7 Art - Red Dot**  
 After reading 'The Dot' by Peter H.Reynolds, Year 7 students were challenged to create a drawing that incorporated their red dot during the art class. In addition to creative thinking, students were to demonstrate understanding of contour line, shape, space, emphasis, proportion and scale.



**MYP Service**  
 Having identified the specific focus/area on Service Learning, Middle Year students are now brainstorming and discussing ideas about their projects or initiatives. Guided by teachers, students take action, become ready and actually provide a meaningful service in a responsible and collaborative manner.



**Y6 Science Collaboration**  
 The Y6s visited secondary science facilities to explore and participate in various activities to develop inquiry and scientific skills. The visit was part of a long collaboration between the primary and secondary science to make our transition more effective.

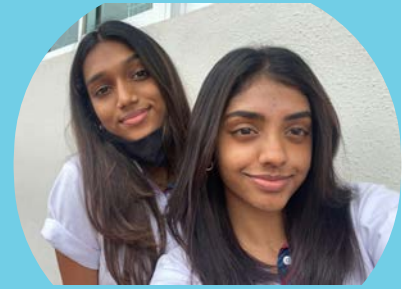


**Sports Training**  
 Our sporting teams are training hard and readying themselves for the time when the ACSIS season can kickstart again.



# Making the Choice: University and Program

Applying to university can be a daunting task. The fact that one decision can determine the rest of your life is an intimidating thought. But it's not that deep. While the last two years of high school does not necessarily make or break your future, it is an important factor to consider. As IBDP2 students, we are constantly made aware of this and have to act upon it everyday, whether it is academically or personally. We are slowly reaching the end of our high school career and have realised that we might have made different decisions, knowing what we know now.



## 1. **Choosing the right career path**

- This is the backbone to the other decisions you will start making once you enter the Diploma Programme. That being said, it is okay to not be certain on a career path. As long as you know what subjects you are stronger at or enjoy more, you are on the right path. Identifying your strengths will help you decide what fields you would excel in, and that will help you pick a few career options.
- Do not let other people tell you what you should be doing as a career. The decision should come from you as you will be the one in the said career, not your parents, extended family or friends. It is important that you can visualise yourself working in a proposed career path, otherwise you might not be motivated to do well. With this, seeking advice from people is always helpful and I would encourage you to talk to people and gauge what their opinions/experiences are in the field that you are looking at.

## 2. **Don't pick a university just for the name**

- Through our years of high school, we all dream of attending Ivy leagues, or any well known university because that is all that we hear. However, when you get closer to the end of your high school years, you will realise that the name of the university doesn't define how good it is. You will realise that everyone has a different "fit" for them as your application is based on your course of interest. Your dream of attending an Ivy league for example might change, because you realise that that particular university doesn't offer what you want to pursue. The whole concept of "rankings" isn't ideal as it puts a very fixed image into our heads. However as your high school years go by, your decisions will slowly start to change as you start to become more aware. Instead of looking only at rankings, comparing the individual courses between universities will give you a better understanding of the best fit for you.

## 3. **Set realistic goals for yourself**

- Everyone is at a different level academically. When you pick your university options, it is important to set goals that are attainable. If your grades are not sufficient for a certain university, then having that university as an option might lead to disappointment down the road. However, academics is not the only factor that could get you into your dream university. Having extra curricular activities or charity work can make your application stand out from the others, so having a good balance is key. If your grades are not sufficient for a university you are interested in, the other criteria could get you a seat anyway. An increasing number of universities have adopted a holistic approach to accepting students, this could work to your advantage!

When we started researching potential universities for us, it was definitely a scary path to go down. As we continued researching and talking to people (and each other!) we realised that there are many resources available in and out of school to make this process smooth sailing. If any of you would like to talk to us or get some help, we're always free to talk! Good luck!

-Neha and Kiara

These were all taken from a unit called *Inspiration or Appropriation* where students used appropriated or borrowed ideas from famous artists to re-contextualise a painting into a more contemporary message.



**ARTIST:** Ivy Pham **TITLE:** I Don't Like Mondays

My artistic intention with this piece was to express to the viewer the issues regarding U.S. gun laws. I appropriated René Magritte's surreal paintings to illustrate a victim of the Sandy Hook Elementary school shooting in 2012. As well as symbolism such as the bunny wearing Magritte's iconic bowler hat, and a gun being placed in the foreground communicating that guns 'come before' lives, 'blinding' the girl of her future.

**ARTIST:** Rio Fukui **TITLE:** The New Normal

My painting is an appropriation of the '*Luncheon of the Boating Party*' by Pierre-Auguste Renoir. The original painting is full of people and has a relaxing warm vibe, whereas I appropriated this piece by getting rid of some people and putting masks on them to create more of an isolated feeling. This allowed me to show the current COVID-19 'social distancing' situation as it is a very controversial topic affecting the whole world, and how social distancing and wearing masks are the new 'normal'.



## Arts @ Chatsworth



**Artist:** Karo Kupiec **Title:** Inner Thoughts

Through appropriating two works - Vincent van Gogh's *Self Portrait 1889* and Brett Whiteley's *Self Portrait in the Studio*, I attempted to communicate the concept of mental illness, especially throughout artists. The chosen appropriated pieces were created by two artists which had significant mental health issues. The combination of the two works portrays dissociation and its effect on one's self concept

**ARTIST:** Aruna Silva **TITLE:** Monet's Hourglass - A Matter of Time

My painting is an appropriation artwork of Claude Monet's *Bain à la Grenouillère* and *The Cliff Walk at Pourville*. It portrays the effects of human-caused environmental issues such as climate change and plastic pollution through the hourglass that has the original Monet painting *The Cliff Walk at Pourville* on the top half, and the bottom half is the same landscape but turned dark and polluted with ships and smoke in the sea. The hourglass communicates that we (humans) are running out of time to undo the issues we've created for the environment. The background behind the hourglass is an appropriation of *Bain à la Grenouillère*, depicting how our plastic waste has polluted the beauty of nature.





**ARTIST:** Linh Nguyen **TITLE:** Polluted Planet

This painting is an appropriation of Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, but instead of the trees and village I have put in chimney stacks and factories. By using this well known painting I have changed the original context to become a message about my concerns for today's environment and what we are doing to the planet.

## Halloween 2020 in Pictures



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Congratulations to Year 13 students Jessica Cohen and Karnchanit Wachirapaet for having won the Silver and Bronze awards respectively in the Individual Category at the Online IB Mathematics Competition.

DP students from schools in Singapore and the region participated in the online competition to prove their mettle in solving IB Math questions using TI-Nspire. The month-long competition which ended on 16th October was organised by Chatsworth and the prizes are sponsored by Texas Instrument Education.

