

# THE PHOENIX TIMES

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION OF CHATSWORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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Welcome to  
Year 2019/2020!



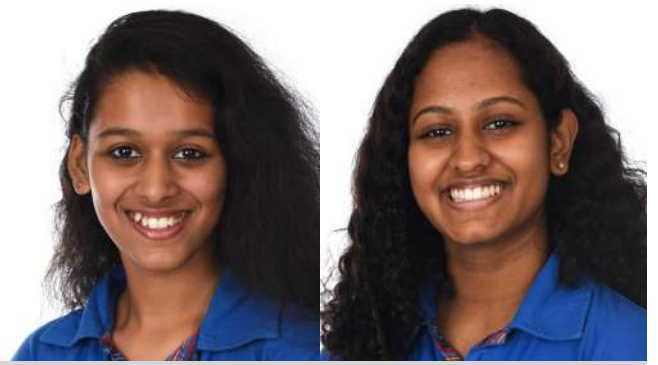
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# @ Chatsworth



Pamoja is an online study platform where students from all around the world get the opportunity to experience digital study and challenges through a two-year course. This will definitely encourage new learning opportunities for a student. In Pamoja, you will find lesson plans made for you on a weekly basis. These courses are fully equipped with content solely from the experienced Pamoja teachers. Along with each lesson, you will get activities and assignments for each course in the week. Some of them would be to see your progress and capabilities while some of them would be formatives that will prepare you for the future assessments.

Pamoja would be a very useful platform to learn not only with you but with any student as it will help them study in the future in universities. However, a few things to note. Firstly, the Pamoja week is different from the normal week. The Pamoja week starts and ends on Tuesday midnight GMT, ie, for a student in Singapore, it will be from Wednesday 7:59 am to the next Wednesday 7:59am. Secondly, an important fact is that the Pamoja calendar does not match with our school calendar. So you have to be prepared to get work on a weekend too. Regarding the grades, you will get two types of grades.

One is the Engagement grade which will check how often you log into Pamoja and how active you are in completing the lessons. Secondly, you will get the grades on the assessments that you do. It is very important that you are engaged in this program regularly to be up-to-date with all the activities. There are various IBDP subjects that Pamoja offers, however, the ones that our school has taken up are Business and Management HL/SL, Psychology HL/SL, Mandarin Ab initio and French Ab initio.

*- Saanika Zanwar, IBDP Business and Management Student*

I believe that Pamoja, the online platform is very flexible, allowing me to work whenever I want. Along with that, it has offered me the opportunity to take certain courses that are not available in my school. In terms of feedback, since it has only been three weeks, I cannot yet determine the level of the feedback. However, all the feedback I have received until now, was very helpful, but the individual feedback could be more specific and expanded.

Although Pamoja has been very helpful so far, I think that school face-to-face learning is better for me because it is easier to learn and ask for help when I am familiarised with my teachers and have close friends to discuss my study with.

*- Rose, IBDP Psychology Student*

In my opinion, Pamoja is a very different course in comparison to my actual classes. It is a course that is completely individual whereas in a class you not only have your teacher but also your peers. We get constant feedback from our teachers but as it has only been three weeks into the course, the teachers and the multiple other students taking this course are still taking time to familiarise themselves with each other.

*- Saveena, IBDP Mandarin Ab initio Student*

## Voices of Our New Friends

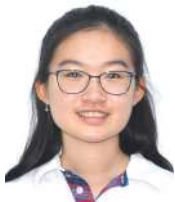
I was so excited to go to school on orientation day, because I was really curious about what my friends would look like because I have never been to a school where everyone was from a different country, even though I have met people from different countries and I have met one or two friends from a different country from my previous school. It's not the same for me so I was really excited about school.



I had so much positivity that negativity was about five percent because I looked forward to 2 great years in IBDP. After the first day of school I felt that I didn't have very many friends yet, and yes, everyone was really friendly, but everyone seemed to have their own friends already and I'm new, however I became friends with the new students and some of the other students and they were really welcoming.

So, I found that people in Chatsworth are really really nice, and the teachers are also welcoming and kind, and they ask you how your doing all the time, I think it's pretty great. On the first day of school we chose our buddy and she showed me around the school. I also met Ori, Meg, Lavanya, Saveena and plenty of other students and they were really nice. They helped me transition easily into the school yes, definitely because after getting to know them, I got to know the school well. It made me like the school more though, knowing that I made friends. They were also really helpful as whenever I had questions they helped me and also sometimes they asked me and the other new kids "How's school?" like after a week they started asking "How's school? How is Chatsworth? How are the people?" and I was like it's great, it's great, because it's true, Chatsworth is a great community.

I just mentioned that I think Chatsworth is a great community, very welcoming, very kind and very happy. It's like everyone seems to be cheerful. And in terms of welcoming students they are very nice, it's really great even though I saw some awkward times, however it was a really nice experience to come to Chatsworth and I would look forward to the next 2 years. If I had one wish to make for the next year, I want to make more friends, and be a better friend, and to do really well in DP and succeed by the end of next year. - *Jessica Cohen*



"I think I fit in well with the other students and have adapted to Chatsworth. There's hardly anything I don't like about Chatsworth, it's such a great school. I think Chatsworth should have less stairs. It's a nice community, all the students are welcoming and kind." - *Ved*



"I fit in because people are very welcoming, and they are very kind. I like the whole school. It's nice, I like it a lot. The teachers are very kind and polite" - *Abishek Ashok*

Keeping others in their minds  
Is always looking out for each other  
Never giving up on each other  
Dependable  
No doubt  
Endless friendships  
Such empathy  
Sharing the fun



## My First Day at Chatsworth

When I walked in the school, there were so many people! I was so nervous and it was kind of embarrassing. Some of the people were excited. But as the days go, it started to get better. So that's how I got used to the school. And don't forget, it was also clean!  
- *Alessandra Yoo, Year 3*

The first day I stepped into this school I saw all the adorable turtles sunbathing on a log as if they were having the best time of their life! Then I went to the library which had books that had entertained me so much that I could have laughed my head off!

Then I met someone called Joseph L who had brown hair, smiled as sweet as cotton candy and his eyes were as bright as a glittering diamond. I asked him to show me around and he showed me all the places that would help me. I went to my classroom and met my teacher called Miss Boate who taught me about flipping your lid, the line of symmetry and art! Afterwards, I went to the lunch hall which sold a juice called Peel Fresh that tasted fantastic and made me feel like heaven. The lunch hall itself was one of the biggest places I saw that day, although my old school had an even bigger one! 🤔😬 What I really adore is Race Car Engineering, which is one of my favourites so far, that allows me to design my own dream car! 🚗😄😁😁 I feel like an expert engineer for Formula One 🏎️! Race car engineering was one thing but football ⚽ was another. I just love it when I get the ball while shooting it into the goal like a bullet, breaking the net! 🏆🔥. I met someone called Thomas who was one of the best goalies I have ever seen! 😂😂😂 How I wish that I could stay in this school forever!!!!!!! 😎😏😬😬😬 - *Jake Malcolm, Year 4*



When I went into the first day of school, I was nervous and there were lots of people. I didn't know what to do so I played because other people were playing too. So I played puzzles and it was really fun and then I was not nervous and I was happy. I was happy because I played with other people and made new friends.  
- *Jamison Davies, Year 3*



## A Brand New Playground that Excites

BT campus is getting a brand new playground come 2020! To be named the Forest Playground, it will boost numerous innovative and high quality structures for both wet and dry play, suited for ages 3 to 12.

The structures offer varying degrees of challenges and stimulation for play, thereby promoting child development in terms of their creativity, physical and social development. The playground will be installed with EPDM safety rubber flooring.

We are so looking forward to the days ahead where our students tell us they love coming to school everyday, more than ever.

## Welcome Back BBQ - A great start to the year!

On the 23rd of August, the school had its annual welcome back BBQ. The event was a great opportunity for old students who had left Chatsworth to come back and meet their friends and for new students to make some new friends. The afternoon started out with the teachers performing a few songs and was then followed by students of all ages performing an array of songs and instruments. The wonderful entertainment was also accompanied by great food bought by the students and fresh hotdogs.

Overall, the event was a major success that gave everyone an opportunity to witness the Chatsworth community at its best. - *Lavanya*



### Primary to Secondary

My name is Conrad Scott and I am in Year Seven. I have been at Chatsworth for about five years. I was at the Orchard Campus for three and a half years, before moving to Bukit Timah. This is my first year in Secondary, and I would like to tell you about my experience so far.

Firstly, having so many new subjects and

teachers is nice and refreshing because in Primary one teacher taught you everything but now having several people teach you is really fun. The subjects which we have this year that we didn't have in Primary are Individuals and Societies, Drama, Design, Art and Science. The students and teachers are caring and help make it easy to join the Secondary community. I partly like Secondary because, unlike last year, we get to play and talk to people who are older than us. I don't like to admit it, but I also enjoy having grades! Last year we didn't have grades so it was a bit laid back but now that we receive grades, it helps motivate us to do as well as we can.

One thing that I have found hard about secondary is the seven-day cycle, which is the schedule that secondary students follow. I still haven't fully wrapped my head around it but I am getting better. The work is a bit harder and we get more homework, but overall secondary is pretty great and I am really happy to be here.

## This new year, a lot has changed!

There are new friends to make, there are new facilities to adapt to, and even new teachers! Personally, I think the best new thing is the canteen! Brand new food, brand new system and even brand new drinks; refreshments for students and coffee for teachers! A brand new year with over 30 nationalities and the feeling of being a whole year older. What more can we ask for?

New house captains and student council members, and new areas to play in. Primary has new laptops, Secondary has new classrooms. A nice fresh start for a new year. Already UN Day, also known as United Nations Day is coming soon! Primary are already working hard on the songs to give the Secondaries and parents a good show. Have a good year!

One of the brand new features this year is the canteen! Operated by Cezars Kitchens, our new canteen has loads of new features! New systems, new food and brand new vegetarian sets. A lot has changed!  
- *Lincoln Huang Xinyang Costich, (Y5H)*



## Achievements Outside School



The September 15th weekend brought much excitement and cheer to two Chatsworth students who had won first place in their respective race category at POSB PAssion Run for Kids (a charity run).

Congratulations to Barnaby Davies for winning the 1.2km Boys Competitive (11 & 12 years old) and Warren Wee for 10km Men's Competitive!



We are thrilled to share that our secondary student, Ryota Kobayashi is one of the two players selected by Feyenoord Camp Singapore to spend a week-long in Rotterdam with their Academy.

Congratulations on Ryota's amazing feat! Feyenoord is one of the top Dutch Football club sides.



**Siwoo won the best young filmmaker [male] award for August 2019 for his animation "Nothing; Everything" at the Indie Short Fest, Los Angeles International Film Festival!**

This film started as a project in school made over 2 years ago. I decided to clean it up and release it.

I drew out a storyboard to work on and animated each and every frame, drew every background and edited every clip. Then I recorded and edited all the sound. Being a director, editor, storyboard artist, sound designer, background artist and animator all on my own gave me a good range of skills that I was able to develop.

The most difficult challenge was trying to come up with nice looking visuals on a tight schedule. The film was made in about 3 weeks, and the animation had to cut many corners to be finished to the end. Because the film had a deadline to certain film festivals I had to rush a lot of the parts and even cut out scenes that wasn't deemed necessary. However, I think because of the tight schedule I was actually able to get it done.

The most rewarding part was watching the film, all edited and finished, at the end. It was a good feeling to know that I started and finished this film, and I feel like I had created something that was worth the effort that I put in. Though not perfect, I feel like I tried, and the result was the closest to how I envisioned it in my head.

- *Siwoo Kim*



On 19th Sep, 16 girls from our Years 7-9 participated in the 1st Dare to be Different event.

The organization, founded by former formula F1 test driver Susie Wolff aims to inspire young girls to get involved in the world of motorsport while engaging in STEM activities, such as building their own cars, learning CPR, being a pit crew, testing their reaction time, and designing the next "big" thing. The girls definitely had their share of excitement even before the F1 race weekend began!



Our secondary student, Yevan (pictured left in photo above) won his first junior race recently at the Asiamax Challenge Round 6.

He has won a ticket to the Rotax World finals in Sarno, Italy this month and is one of the six Asian representatives. Congratulations Yevan and all the best for your next race!



**Contributors**

- Lincoln Costich
- Chloe Abadesco
- Cedric Issle
- Lavanya Bagri
- Saanika Zawar
- Conrad Scott
- Siwoo Kim
- Jake Malcolm
- Saveena
- Jessica Cohen
- Abhishek Ashok
- Ved Amit
- Jamison Davies
- Rose
- Ms Angela Ong
- Ms Tansey
- Ms Goss

**Photographers**

- Ms Pearlie Tan

**Editor**

- Mr Thinagar
- Ms Angela Ong

**Layout Editor**

- Mr Thinagar
- Ms Pearlie Tan



A quiet revolution is taking place in our corridors and stairwells. Starting last year, a group of dedicated Art students have been busy doing their part to beautify our new campus and to leave their mark on the school for posterity.

Ms Goss's CCA last year created a stunning panel mural of our Bukit Timah surroundings in the style of celebrated English artist David Hockney. This mural can be seen on your way up to the Math's and Science departments in block C. This was followed by a group of talented year 8 students who painted their version of orchids inspired by our beautiful Singapore Botanical Gardens. These murals can be found in the B block stairwell closest to the entrance gate.

This year a new group has formed and will take on their biggest task yet, a full jungle mural to fill the huge wall on your way up from languages floor to the Visual Art classrooms. Stayed tuned and watch this space as this mural develops early next term.

**Ms Jo Tansey**  
**Head of Arts**