



# CHIJ KATONG CONVENT

346 Marine Terrace, Singapore 449150

Tel: 6448 6433 Fax: 6449 4405

[www.chijkatongconvent.moe.edu.sg](http://www.chijkatongconvent.moe.edu.sg)



**PARENT LINK : JANUARY 2018**

12 January 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians

Happy New Year! A new year brings new opportunities and aspirations, and I hope it will bring you and your family peace, joy and good health!

On behalf of our KC Family, I wish to extend a very warm welcome to the new members of our Family – the parents and guardians of our new Sec 1 girls. We look forward to working with you to ensure that our girls will continue to bloom where she is planted, learning and growing under the tender ministrations of the KC staff, as one big KC family. We ask God for His continual blessings and are confident that together with your support, we will continue to nurture the KC girl, giving us a renewed hope for the future; that the best is yet to come.

At CHIJ Katong Convent, we believe in working closely with parents to give our girls a strong moral compass as they navigate the changes and uncertainties around them, and to develop their confidence and courage to pursue their dreams and create their own future. Parent Link is our newsletter where we communicate with parents our key school programmes and events, and celebrate the success of our girls. In our efforts to save more trees, we will continue to publish subsequent issues of Parent Link on the school website. You can expect the issues to be out by the **second Friday** of each month except for June, October to December when there are no issues. We will leverage our Parents Gateway platform to alert you once we have uploaded the respective issue on the website.

We hope you will find the information useful. We strongly encourage you to join our Parent-Teacher Support Group and be part of our team to create even more opportunities for our girls to explore, discover and develop their talents to enrich their school experience in KC.

## Farewell and Welcome

We begin 2018 by extending our heartfelt **'Thank You'** to the following teachers who have left Katong Convent and wish them all the best in their new endeavours:

- Mr Lawrence Koh, our HOD/Mathematics who has taken up a new appointment as Vice – Principal of Bedok View Secondary School
- Ms Tan Chew Ngee who has joined Yew Tee Primary School
- Mr Ng Kuan Shin who has joined Hai Sing Catholic School

We would like to extend our warm welcome to Ms Chin Qinning and Mdm Tan Puay Cher who have joined the School Management Committee as HOD/Mathematics and HOD/Student Development respectively. Both come to us with a wealth of experience and we look forward to working with them to bring out the best in our students.



We also welcome the following teachers to Katong Convent:

**Ms Cai Hanyun Art / Drama**  
**Mdm Chong PeiXin CL**  
**Ms Soo Pei Chia Art**  
**Mr Wang Zhe CL**

We wish them a very fruitful stay at KC.

### **A look back at events which took place in November 2017**

#### *Alumni Homecoming Day*

KC celebrated its first ever Homecoming for alumni, family and friends on Saturday 18 November from 4pm to 8pm. It saw a fantastic turnout of almost 2000 guests and alumni, some of whom queued for almost an hour to buy a ticket to see the new school campus, catch up with former teachers and classmates and reminisce in the revamped yet familiar school setting.

Guests were treated to an interesting array of activities and events at various new venues of the school throughout the four hours:

- Performances by the Concert Band, Dance and Chinese Orchestra in the Multi-Purpose Hall, Dramatic Arts Society in the Foyer, Choir in the Library, Drama Elective Programme students and Chinese Drama in the Black Box,
- Friendly sports showdowns between current students and alumni in Floorball in the Indoor Sports Hall and Netball in the Netball courts,
- Cooking sessions at the Community Garden,
- Art exhibition and demonstration in the Upper Foyer,
- Debate Friendlies in the Library,
- Food & Craft Bazaar in the Canteen (e.g. Old Chang Kee and Coffee Bandits food trucks, stalls selling a variety of snacks, savoury and sweet foods, handmade crafts and home-grown salads and plants by alumni and the Parent Support Group),
- Photo-taking in the Music Room and
- Song dedications in the Canteen.

The event also marked the opening of the KC Heritage Gallery which showcases the school's history and development over the years and houses interesting artefacts during each era. Many alumni who viewed the gallery felt a deep sense of pride and nostalgia reading the various information panels and looking at the old school artefacts and photographs. It was a wonderful trip down memory lane for all who visited!

The #KCisHome event turned out to be a lively and joyous afternoon filled with laughter, smiles and hugs as alumni of different years (from recent graduates to those who graduated as early as the 1960s!) returned with friends and family to the place they once called home. Together as one big KC family, we all successfully celebrated our past, embraced the present and looked to a future of possibilities for KC!

A big thank you to all parents and alumni who contributed to this event in one way or another. We deeply appreciate your generosity and help and we could not have made this Homecoming a success without you.



### *Academic Learning Journey to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*

In early November, 32 secondary three students embarked on a 6-day cross-disciplinary trip to South Vietnam. Jointly organised by the Humanities and Art departments, this trip aimed at providing an extended and immersive learning opportunity for Art, Geography and History students to deepen their academic grasp.

Armed with pre-trip briefings that equipped all participants with a working understanding of all three subjects, the girls formed cross-subject teams from each discipline to tackle learning challenges from the carefully-crafted lessons planned by teachers and to give opportunity for them to lead and showcase their expertise in the subject matter.

We visited historical sites that shed light on Vietnam's recent past, geographical features such as the delta region in the south and went on an illuminating art tour that highlighted the evolution of Vietnamese art. We also had a fun and enriching school exchange where, despite our language difficulties, we felt the warmth of ASEAN friendship resonate soundly through our all too brief interaction. Beyond school, we were also given a peek into the tough work put in by farmers to grow our staples and even tried our hands on planting rice in a small field. We learnt to appreciate that the rice that we eat was the result of many hours of sweat at the mercy of the weather. We also came away impressed by the productivity and creativity of the Vietnamese farmer who was spurred on by his desire to provide a better life for his children and family.

Similarly in the larger economy, we saw how the Vietnamese were able to provide goods and services that catered to the needs of the tourists such as restaurants and modern interpretations of Vietnamese cuisine, adapted for modern tastes and presentation. In the aspect of national self-determination, we witnessed first-hand their spirit of sacrifice to be free from foreign domination in their defiance and ingenuity at the Chu Chi Tunnel complex. Lastly, we experienced the positive impact of social media as the large Vietnamese art and architectural community turned out in force to support our sketching exercise of the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral on the last day of our visit.

The trip also enabled us to receive first-hand information on Singapore's own regionalisation efforts. We managed to secure an afternoon with International Enterprise Singapore Director of Operations in Vietnam, who informed us of efforts by Singaporean companies to secure a business foothold and the challenges they faced.

Overall, our short but intense learning journey was a precious opportunity to gain a more nuanced and better-defined understanding of one of Singapore's larger economic partners, beyond the confines of the textbook and left us with many memorable moments that would remain indelible for a long time.

### *2017 End-of-Year Work Attachment Programme*

From 6 to 10 November 2017, 27 secondary three students participated in work attachments across six organisations namely, Beauty Edge Pte Ltd, Eden Children's Centre, Nook & Cranny, Ren Ci Hospital, Swarovski Singapore Trading and Wong Partnership. The Work Attachment Programme sought to enhance students' awareness of themselves and the world of work, instil appropriate work attitudes and values, and create students' awareness of the relationship between their career interests and their strengths. From shadowing nurses and physiotherapists to organising documents and financial invoices, the students truly gained invaluable experiences. Here are some reflections from the students themselves:

"This work attachment taught me what working life is really about. It was an eye-opener and helped me understand that life out of KC is really different. It forced me to think independently and be mature."

Gloriana Judith Rini Augustine, 302, attached to Ren Ci Hospital (Business Office)



"I had opportunities to improve my command of English and learn new things like how to take good photos, how to make pictures look interesting and how to ultimately entice the audience to buy the product."

Beatrice Lim Wen Xuan, 306, attached to Nook & Cranny

"Through my interaction with the elderly, I was able to hear a wide variety of interesting stories about their past. At the same time, I was also able to brush up my dialect and Mandarin skills. The best part of doing this task was being able to put a smile on each of the elderlies' faces and hearing them laugh."

Tan Hui Fen Tammy, 305, attached to Ren Ci Hospital (Nursing Home)

"Now I think that working life is very stressful as I saw how busy the kindergarten staff were. Even though lessons were over, the teachers would still have to stay back to prepare for the upcoming lessons and they had many things to do."

Lim Yi'en Janae, 301, attached to Eden Children's Centre

*If you are a parent who may be able to offer work attachment placements in your organisation in November 2018, we would love to have your support in this programme. This will allow us to open this opportunity to as many students as possible. Please contact the PTSG to express your interest and we will get back to you.*

### **Beginning-of-year Eucharistic Celebration**

The new year spells a fresh school season of renewal and reconnecting with our identity as a Christ-centred community. We marked the end of the first week with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, thanking God for the many blessings this past year and the abundant grace, which 2018 will continue to bring.

Based on readings specially discerned and selected by our Catholic student leaders, we reaffirm our role as being one body in Christ, "made up of many parts" which will grow and learn together as one KC Village. Morning reflections and the homily shared respectively by Mr Winston Chiang and our celebrant, Fr Donatien Davaine, encouraged each and every member of the KC family, to reconnect to our innermost calling by being steadfast in our care and concern for one another in faith and charity. We were also reminded to deepen our yearning to be Christ-like in our lives, reaching out to our neighbours, especially the marginalised and less fortunate.

As we continue the KC journey in this 2018, we pray for all staff and students to grow in faith, hope and love for another through charity and acts of service, which will bless our community and loved ones.

### **Developing Competencies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

We strive to develop the character of our girls with our **Values In Action (VIA)** and **Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)** Programmes. This year's Level Camps and Book and Music Week would continue to provide opportunities for our girls to be imbued with the desired values of a KC Graduate. In addition, we will enhance students' ability to problem-solve, innovate, and communicate through our academic subjects. By the time the students complete their secondary school education, they should have acquired the minimum competencies in cyber-wellness, info-literacy, office applications, collaborative online applications and basic photo/ video editing. All secondary one and two students will be involved in a subject-based project where they will learn and apply relevant ICT skills to source accurately for information, collaborate online with their peers to create new information and present their final product in digital format.



During these lessons, students will also be encouraged to explore, learn, track their own progress using relevant ICT applications to enhance their project work. The ICT-supported Project Work lessons will be held in the school's computer labs during curriculum hours. Guidance will be provided by a subject teacher and the school's ICT Training Executive.

The above initiatives are part of KC's continuing efforts to put in place suitable programmes and activities tailored to the diverse interests of all our students. As the school year progresses, we anticipate the need for greater support and help from parents in the delivery of these programmes and activities. We look forward to working with you in the months to come.

### **Teaching and Learning Innovations**

Students looking to challenge themselves and desiring to contribute back to the community can look forward to two exciting pilot programmes in Katong Convent this year. The first programme leverages Katong Convent's strengths in the communicative, performing, and visual arts. The Arts and Culture pilot programme is designed for interested and aspiring students to explore and experience the arts in an integrated manner. With learning activities strongly geared towards arts leadership and connecting with audiences, selected students from secondary one to three will be trained in public speaking, arts journalism, workshop facilitation and docent-ship skills. As part of their learning, students of the pilot programme can expect to be at the forefront of KC's school events as well as its signature arts programmes.

Likewise, the second programme is an interdisciplinary collaboration, in this case between Science and Art Titled *Design Thinking for Open Spaces*, it employs Design Thinking as an approach for cultivating critical and inventive thinking, communication and collaboration skills. Design Thinking first began as a set of strategies that architects, designers, and urban planners used in their ideation and creation process. It was later adopted to address business and social issues, especially for complex, intractable, human-based projects. For this round, selected students from secondary one and two will be involved in the generation of design solutions to enhance the efficiency and efficacy of KC's new courtyards and outdoor learning spaces. Besides having the opportunity to work in project teams, students will learn to conduct ethnographic studies, prototype and pitch their designs to the school community.

Both pilot programmes are examples of teaching and learning innovations in Katong Convent that provide student talents with stretch opportunities that are located within the interdisciplinarity of real world contexts. Student selection will take place between February and March and be based on interest and merit. Interested students are welcomed to approach Ms Jacelyn Kee, HOD/Art, Mdm Sukhjeet Kaur, HOD/English, and Ms Chew Xiangwen, HOD/Science for more information or register their interest.

### **Communication Platforms**

In our effort to forge an even more collaborative partnership with our parents and guardians, the school has instituted several communication channels.

#### *Email Addresses of Subject Teachers*

We are in the process of collating the **email addresses of the subject teachers** of your daughter's class and will make this available to you via the Parents Portal on the school website and Parents Gateway platforms to facilitate more direct communication between you and your daughter's teachers by mid-Jan. There could be changes along the way, so do refer to our school website PARTNERS > PARENTS LOGIN link for the latest update. In addition, the **assessment guidelines** comprising types of assessment modes and weighting for the year will be uploaded via the same links by end Jan for reference.



## Subject Information Sessions

The Art department will be organising a **Saturday dialogue** on 20 Jan with parents to support the girls doing coursework for the GCE O and N level Exams. Concurrently, there will be a **Sec 1** subject information session on new Humanities subjects taken at the secondary level (History, Geography, Literature) and our Enhanced Art Programme which aims to provide:

- i. an understanding of the demands and expectations of these Lower Secondary subject syllabuses;
- ii. an overview of the academic programmes which support teaching and learning of these subjects and
- iii. an understanding of the assessment components for these subjects.

There will be a Q & A segment at the end of the session for you to address any queries with the relevant subject teachers. We look forward to seeing you at the subject information session.

## Meet- the-Parents Session

Our form teachers aim to meet all parents at least once in the year so we hope that parents will continue to respond to our invitation to our Meet-the-Parents Session scheduled at the end of Term 1.

## The Year Heads

While we take steps to enhance our communication with parents, we will also reach out to the girls to build our relationship with them. The **Year Head System** serves as a culture-building platform to foster a sense of unity among the cohort and develop a love for the school community. Among other things, the Year Head monitors the academic progress and well-being of the cohort to help our students maximise their potential. The respective Year Heads are: Mdm Jessy Tan (Sec 1), Ms Gail Yap (Sec 2), Ms Nurahifah Bte Amran (Sec 3) Mr Juraimy Abu Bakar (Sec 4/5), and Mdm Zakiah Bte Subahan (Sec 1 – 4 NT). Apart from the various class contact time, level meetings, level assemblies, level activities, school leaders and key personnel will be carrying out class dialogues especially with the graduating cohort to understand, support and guide our students to be the best they can be. In KC, we are committed to building A Caring School that Excels.

Thank you and may God bless you and your family.

Yours sincerely



Patricia Chan (Ms)  
Principal

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1. Safety of our Students

Since the beginning of Term 1, we have been reminding our girls to be conscious of and take responsibility for their own safety. We also conducted a safety briefing for all on 2 Jan. Students were reminded to refrain from using mobile phones or other electronic audio devices when crossing the road as these will distract their attention away from looking out for their own safety. Do remind your daughters to get all her things ready before reaching the school as we sometimes see them rushing after your car dangerously to retrieve whatever they have carelessly left behind.



## 2. Student Journal

Every student has been given a complimentary copy of the Student Journal which contains important information about school matters. You may wish to go through the information in the journal together with your daughters so that they know what to expect during their stay here with us. Thank you for acknowledging the copy of the school rules which we have availed to you in the spirit of home-school collaboration to nurture our girls into respectful and responsible individuals.

## 3. Changes to Term 1 Timetable

In view of public / school holidays and mass school programmes in Term 1 that would lead to uneven number of curriculum days, the school would be implementing replacement for the affected curriculum days. On 30 January and 7 February, the students will follow the timetable for Friday (odd week) whereas on 8 Mar, they will follow the timetable for Thursday (odd week).

### Highlights for Week 1 – 6 (2 Jan to 9 Feb)

Date	Time	Activities
Tues 02 Jan	0735 – 1340	Opening of School Programme
Fri 05 Jan	0800 – 0900 h	Temperature-taking Exercise Beginning of Year Mass
Sat 06 Jan	0830 – 1130 h	Meet-the-Parents Session for Sec 1 Parents CCA Fair
Wed 10 Jan Fri 12 Jan Wed 17 Jan Fri 19 Jan	1445 – 1730 h 1415 – 1730 h 1445 – 1730 h 1415 – 1730 h	CCA Trials and Auditions
Fri 12 Jan	1430 – 1600 h	Release of 2017 'O' Level Results
Mon 15 Jan	1445 – 1730 h	Literary Workshop
Sat 20 Jan	0900 – 1100 h	'O' and 'NA' Level Art Coursework Briefing for parents and students Lower Sec Subject Info Session (Humans / Art)
Thurs 25 Jan	1445 – 1800	EAP Arts Excursion
Mon 29 Jan Tues 30 Jan Tues 6 Feb	1445 – 1730 h	Geographical Investigation Historical Investigation (classes as scheduled)
Thur 1 Feb – Sat 3 Feb	*To be advised	Level Camp
Mon 5 Feb – 9 Feb	*To be advised	Mother Tongue Fortnight
Fri 9 Feb	*To be advised	Commencement of CA 1

\*Please refer to the respective circulars issued nearer the respective dates

## 4. Continual Assessment

There will be a Common Test for all commencing on 9 Feb. A schedule will be issued to your daughter by the end of Jan. The progress report for Term 1 will be issued on the last day of the term on 9 Mar. Parents will be invited to meet the teachers on 9 or 10 Mar. Details about these parent – teacher meetings will be issued nearer the respective dates.



## 5. Keep Singapore Clean Movement (KSCM) In Schools

In support of the KSCM in Schools, we are intensifying several activities to encourage our students to take ownership of the cleanliness of their school and the environment, and in the process inculcate the values of responsibility and care. The KSCM in Schools will allow students to put these values into practice - to be responsible for keeping the places they frequent clean, such as the classroom and the school compound.

These are the activities planned for 2018:

- daily cleaning of the classroom including clearing of class trash into the communal dustbin
- partnering of school cleaners in school clean-up by Secondary 1 classes before and after school, and during/after recess on a weekly basis in Semester 1
- picking up of litter in school compound by Secondary 2s
- end of term cleaning of classrooms – shelves, windows, whiteboard, tables, standing fans and sweeping/mopping of floors

With the strong support from the students and their parents, we believe that we will make our school a clean and conducive environment for all.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### 1. 2017 GCE N Level Results

Last year, our Sec 4 Normal (Academic) and Normal (Technical) girls performed well in the GCE N Level Examinations. With the eligibility criteria for Sec 5N set at an ELMAB3 (English + Math + Best 3 subjects) aggregate of  $\leq 19$  points, 93 % of our Sec 4N(A) girls qualified for Sec 5N as compared to the national percentage of 76.6%. We will continue to do all we can to help our girls realise their dreams.

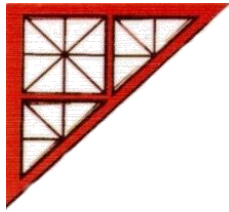
Our Sec 4N(A) girls achieved 100% passes in English Language, Geography, Literature, Additional Mathematics, Art and Malay Language. Subjects that achieved more than 25% distinctions were Additional Mathematics (35.7%), English Language (45.1%), Literature (58.3%), Geography (100%), Mathematics (45.1%), Combined Humanities (50.7%), Science (35.2%), Malay (25%), Art (33.3%) and Principles of Accounts (66.7%).

Our Sec 4N(T) girls achieved 100% passes in English Language, Mathematics, Science, Basic Malay and Elements of Business Studies which put them in good stead for their post-secondary options. They did better than the National performance in terms of % passes in Computer Applications, Elements of Business Studies, English Language, Basic Malay, Mathematics and Science. They also did better than the National performance in terms of % distinction for the following subjects: English Language (66.7%), Science (20%), Basic Chinese (33.3%) and Elements of Business Skills (33.3%).

Heartiest congratulations to all the girls, parents and teachers. We wish all the girls every success in their future endeavours.







## OUR GIRLS, OUR FUTURE

### CHIJ KATONG CONVENT PARENT- TEACHER SUPPORT GROUP

Email : [ptsg.kc@gmail.com](mailto:ptsg.kc@gmail.com)

PTSG website hyperlink @

<http://www.chijkatongconvent.moe.edu.sg>



The KC Parent-Teacher Support Group (PTSG) comprises parents who are passionate about being involved in their daughters' school experiences and supportive of school efforts in making every KC girl's journey memorable. The PTSG is led by two chairpersons and each level (e.g. Sec 1, 2 etc.) is led by two level parent representatives.

There are no formal PTSG meetings; instead, parents meet on a more informal basis (e.g. to plan and prepare for school events, to participate in activities such as badminton, baking or cooking sessions or simply to catch up over a meal at a parent's home or cafes, etc.). These sessions help to promote camaraderie amongst KC parents and strengthen parent-child, parent-parent and parent-school relationships.

The PTSG chairpersons and level representatives keep in touch with parents through WhatsApp. If you would like to join the PTSG WhatsApp class or activity groups, please send a message to the chairpersons so they can add you to the respective chat groups.

PTSG also has their very own KC PTSG T-shirt for parent volunteers. These comfortable navy blue-coloured dri-fit tees are available in a range of sizes for \$15/ piece. If you are interested in getting one for yourself, do let the PTSG chairpersons know or you may also contact the PTSG teachers.

#### Chairpersons

Christine 97527974  
Rowena 82684712

#### Teachers

Ms Cheryl Anne Lim 64486433 ext 132  
[lim\\_su\\_ying\\_cheryl@moe.edu.sg](mailto:lim_su_ying_cheryl@moe.edu.sg)  
Mr Luke Ezekiel 64486433 ext 143  
[luke\\_saidil\\_ezekiel@moe.edu.sg](mailto:luke_saidil_ezekiel@moe.edu.sg)

