Sustainable Efforts for a Green Environment

New Town Secondary School achieved the Vanda Miss Joaquim Award in the SEC-StarHub School Green Awards 2018 and 2019. The Vanda Miss Joaquim Award is a recognition of our school's green efforts and initiatives. In addition, the school also attained a Gold Award in the Green Schools @ South West in 2018. This is the 6th consecutive year that the school has obtained a Gold, beginning from 2013.

Since the establishment of Environment Education as one of the school's signature programmes in 2005, going green has become an integral part of our daily life. To achieve a green environment, the school uses eco-friendly products such as printing paper with the Green Label and refillable whiteboard markers. Energy saving light bulbs and water saving devices are also installed. Posters on energy conservation and reduction of food wastage are displayed around the school campus. Besides the school's recycling corner, many collection points are set up with food waste bins, paper recycling boxes and tetrapak recycling bins.





Our Green Guardians and Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Environment and Water Resources spreading the dengue prevention message

The school provides a values-based education on environmental issues in the Humanities and Science curriculum. Class discussions centre on energy conservation as well as efforts in combating climate change, saving the trees and minimising food wastage. Student learning is further enhanced through their Project Work and Values-In-Action programme where they are empowered to research on a given environmental issue and share their findings with the community.

Other platforms are also available for Newtowners to be immersed in continuous environmental improvement and these include the "Groom the Classroom Competition", hydroponics enrichment, community-based litter picking and other community outreach programmes by the Green Guardians who have been very active in the Southwest Clean and Green carnival annually.

The school has made great strides in its greening efforts and this is certainly made possible with the concerted efforts of all staff and students. We will continue with our efforts for environmental improvement both in school and the community at large.





Enhanced Art Programme







Our Enhanced Art Programme students had the opportunity to learn from our alumnus and pathfinder, Mr Melvyn Goh, during the Term 3 segment of our masterclass. The students were introduced to storytelling through moving images. They learnt to plan and frame their shots, film using their own mobile devices and edit videos on iMovie.

Our students treasured the opportunity to learn from an expert in the film and media industry; and they can quickly transfer the knowledge they have gained into the filming and production of their very own short video!

Applied Learning Programme

It is a common sight to see our Secondary One students going around the school, clicking away on their cameras during Art lessons in Term 3. These lessons on basic camera handling and composition techniques are part of the Applied Learning Programme in Visual Communication. During these sessions, students explore different camera settings to produce a good photograph and learn how to frame a photograph to captivate the audience. Our Newtowners are certainly an artistic bunch as many creative shots were captured during the lessons. To further hone their visual communication, some students participated in an outdoor photography shoot at Jurong Lake Garden on 14 August 2019. Through this session, they were able to effectively apply the skills they have learnt.







Learning for Life

Looking out for the well-being of peers is one of the main roles of the Peer Support Leaders (PSLs).

The PSLs took the lead in rallying our students to promote good cyberspace netiquette through various activities. The PSLs used the Traffic Light tool to encourage peers to **Stop** (red) unsafe practices, **Consider** (amber) consequences before posting and **Start** (green) positive initiatives in cyber netiquette.





During the stressful pre-examination period, the PSLs created a small self-made booklet to allow classmates to write encouraging notes to each other. Students were excited and heartened to receive a positive note of encouragement from their friends.

Thursday Morning Inspiration

On Thursday mornings, our students begin the day by listening to an inspiring story shared by their schoolmates. Titled 'Morning Inspiration', this initiative was started in 2016 and since then, students from different CCAs and classes have shared stories that centre on school values. There were personal stories that tugged at the heartstrings, like Luqman Nurhakim's (3E3) story about his resilient and witty grandfather, and there were stories relating to commemorative events like Total Defence Day. For this year, we had two former students, Dacian Chew (4E2, 2018) and Jonathan Ng (4E2, 2018) returning to share their stories and encourage their juniors to be resilient in facing challenges and to always strive to put in their best effort in everything they do.



Business and Finance Elective Module





During the June school holidays, Secondary Three students participated in a customised Business and Finance Elective Module, designed to help them explore possible future career paths. The three-day workshop helped participants gain basic business principles and practise practical retailing skills. To help students connect theoretical knowledge to real-life application, a half-day learning journey to several retail outlets at Orchard Road was conducted.

Alyssa Maria Daly (3N5) was given the privilege to share her experience during the school assembly. Her earnest sharing encouraged many Newtowners to seek education and career guidance so as to prepare them for postsecondary education and future work options.

The Bicentennial Experience @ Fort Canning Centre







The Singapore Bicentennial marks the 200th anniversary of Singapore's founding by the British. To provide an opportunity to gain a better understanding of our nation's transformation through time, all our Secondary One students were taken on a learning journey to Fort Canning Centre for The Bicentennial Experience on 10 July 2019.

At the Centre's Time Traveller section, the students embarked on a multimedia sensory experiential journey to witness Singapore's key historical moments through seven centuries. The students also visited the Pathfinder which is a series of outdoor pavilions showcasing Singapore's place in the world across the centuries using artefacts, maps and flora. The journey was an eye opener for our students as they had the opportunity to discover how the past has shaped Singapore and what it means for them to find their way for a brighter future.

Values In Action and Immersion Programme – Trip to Malacca





Our Secondary Two students were involved in a Values In Action (VIA) and educational trip to Malacca during the September school holidays.

The trip was organised as part of our overseas educational exposure and internationalisation programme to expose students to different cultures and provide opportunities for them to participate in a VIA activity at an orphanage in Malacca. Sharing her experience at the orphanage, Tan Kai Ting (2E1) said that the children warmed up after the bonding games and their smiles brightened up the day for our Newtowners.

The students also had a chance to see history come alive when they visited the Admiral Cheng Ho Museum to learn about his voyages and contributions. Two students from each class presented the achievements of Admiral Cheng Ho and history of Malacca prior to the museum visit. Students had a better understanding of the rise and fall of Temasek in relation to the port of Malacca, and they were inspired to think deeper about how Singaporeans should strive to ensure the prosperity and sustainability of the nation.

Singapore-Thailand Enhanced Partnership





musical instrument, Ranat Ek

The Singapore-Thailand Enhanced Partnership 2019 was a memorable experience for our students. The programme started with a camp at Nong Nooch Tropical Garden in Thailand where our students bonded with their Thai buddies and participated in team bonding activities.

Our students also engaged in cultural activities unique to Thailand. They learnt traditional Thai dance, playing of Thai musical instruments, Thai boxing and Thai cooking. It was a valuable journey of growth as our students learnt to build new friendships and embrace a different culture.

National Junior Science Olympiads



As part of challenging our students' science knowledge and skills, some Secondary Four students participated in the National Junior Science Olympiads. Our Newtowners displayed resilience and resourcefulness in preparing for the competition. They did well and we are proud of their achievements:

Biology Olympiad

Sean Ow Zhan Rong (4E2) – Gold Award Javier Tan (4E2) – Silver Award Ong Jiong Hui (4E2) – Bronze Award Joelle Chiow Hui Ern (4E2) – Honourable Mention

Physics Olympiad

Alfonso Tan (4E1) – Honourable Mention Wesley Henry Sudarman (4E1) – Honourable Mention Shaun Ming Laclemence (4E3) – Honourable Mention Tay Tze Kiat Benjamin (4E3) – Honourable Mention

SYF Youth Project and FUN Concert

Our annual F.U.N Concert Talent Competition saw five groups of contestants showcasing their musical abilities by presenting covers of their favourite pop artistes and performing with musical instruments and vocals. With judges and votes from the students and staff, the students were awarded first to fifth placing, in recognition of their talents and efforts.

As part of the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Celebrations, a group of Secondary Three students submitted their music project for the Youth Station Project. The group was awarded the Honourable Mention and performed at the Library@Esplanade.



Uniformed Groups Integration Day

On 3rd September 2019, cadets from the four Uniformed Groups (UG) of New Town came together to share and learn the different skill sets and functions of each UG. With an objective to attain clues to solve a mystery, cadets set out in groups to attempt the various life skills stations set up by the UG leaders. Through the station activities, the cadets learned navigating, handling rifles, building structures and stitching techniques. It was an eye opener for the cadets as they discovered the specialities of other UGs. It was also an opportunity for the UG leaders to build their confidence in sharing their skills.



Racial Harmony Day: The Singapore Connection







Our school commemorated Racial Harmony Day (RHD) on 17 July 2019. This year's theme was "The Singapore Connection". Since Singapore was founded in 1819, our immigrant community has tapped on the strengths of our differences to make Singapore everyone's home. During our morning assembly, some teachers and students shared why RHD is celebrated in Singapore and how we can continue to preserve racial harmony.

The colourful and vibrant Dikir Barat performance by teachers and members of the Ethnic Fusion Dance group captivated the entire school, enabling them to appreciate different cultures.

With the provisions by our dedicated Parent Support Group volunteers, our students savoured traditional food during their recesses. Students also learned more about RHD during Character and Citizenship Education lessons and at a Morning Inspiration Talk by one of the NE Student Ambassadors.

The RHD celebration exemplified how cultural diversity has laid the foundation for our nation's success.

National Day Celebration: Our Singapore

Our National Day Celebration kicked-off with a lesson package on 'Our Singapore' where students were guided to ponder on the contributions of our forefathers.

Secondary Four and Five students were also treated to a sharing session by two former Newtowners on their National Service experience. The celebration then transitioned to a display of various student-led performances in the school hall, each showcasing multiple perspectives of what the Singapore story means.

The Bicentennial Skit and the Medley of Classic Singaporean Songs reminded Newtowners of the progress the nation had made. The Choral Speakers then presented a local poem which discussed some of our nation's potential future challenges. The Chinese Contemporary Dance group provided a timely reminder of Singaporeans' ability to overcome adversity through a dance item about the tenacity of leaves.

Our school celebration then climaxed with the singalong session which showcased our school's passion towards Singapore.







Teachers' Day Celebration







NTSS celebrated Teachers' Day on 5 September 2019 with a concert where students put up performances to show their appreciation for all staff.

It was followed by a tele-match and bowling session for all staff and invited guests at the Temasek Club. Many staff dressed up for the theme of 'Dream Team' and participated actively at the various tele-match stations. Staff were challenged to pick up marbles with chopsticks, toss rubber rings into a designated area and solve a puzzle to score points for their team. At the bowling alley, some were more successful than others in striking the pins, but all were cheering for their teammates and having a good time.

During the sumptuous buffet lunch, some staff showed off their vocal and dance talents and performed to a captive audience.

Graduation Ceremony 2019







The 2019 Graduation Ceremony was graced by New Town Alumni, Col (NS) Dominic Soh from the Class of 1976. Col Soh related well to the school's core values as he inspired his juniors to serve their communy while developing their character.

This year's theme for the ceremony was "Stand by Me". A series of appreciation videos were presented to express the students' gratitude to their teachers and non-teaching staff who had stood by them all these years. The staff reciprocated with a similar message of support and encouragement through a heart warming video.

To cap the memorable occasion, the students sung the school song with great gusto and their voices resonated long after the last note. Indeed the years may go by but their fond memories will stay.

Quick Thinking, Confident Speaking



Over a span of three sessions, our Secondary Three students were introduced to debating skills where they learnt how to build a persuasive case using a framework. They gained a deeper understanding of good presentation skills and set forth to work in groups for the intra-class debates. Finally the interclass debate competition saw the winning team from each class pitting against one another in a battle of reasons and persuasions.

Bringing Texts Alive

Our Secondary One students got the opportunity to hone their oral skills through a Reader's Theatre Workshop held in May 2019.

The programme focussed on character analysis, script writing as well as oral presentation techniques. The goal was to bring texts alive by using a clear voice and facial expressions. The sessions enabled our students to become more confident speakers.





Art and Science Come Alive



Viewing through a spectrophotometer

In May 2019, the Science and Art teachers collaborated to design a hands-on learning experience for the Sec One NA students. Students visited the ArtScience museum where they acquired knowledge about light and colours through a series of engaging activities.

During the visit, students had the opportunity to make their own spectrophotometer and observe the real colour of objects in a dark booth. They were fascinated by the colours of the objects that resulted from interactions with different coloured light.

After the visit, students created their own pinhole viewer to explore how quality images are formed. Many of the students were intrigued by the images they saw on their pinhole viewer. They also discovered how Art and Science complement each other in the real world!





Chinese Creative Writing Workshop





It was an engaging afternoon for our students who participated in this year's creative writing workshop, helmed by Dr Chua Chee Lay, a renowned poet, who was the Chinese tutor of our late founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew. This workshop allowed our students to hone their creativity through exposure to different writing approaches such as using different points of view and writing in varied genres.

Sun Maoda (3E4) shared he had benefited from the insights of Dr Chua's writing experiences and was truly engaged by his witty and humorous style of sharing. As a poetry-lover, he learnt a lot about poems from Dr Chua's sharing.

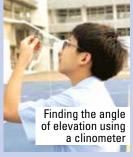
VP Mrs Chua led Maoda and Chloe Leoh Teng Neng (3E1) in reciting a poem written by Dr Chua. The poem titled "The furthest distance in the world" reminded staff and students to put down their electronic devices and spend quality time with their family members.

Fun with Clinometers

During the workshop organised by the Mathematics Department, our Secondary Three Express students had fun making their own clinometers to measure the angles of slope, elevation and depression of objects. Coupled with the knowledge of trigonometrical concepts, the clinometers were also used to find the height of the flag pole at the parade square.

The students enjoyed making the clinometers and were excited using their self-made instrument for real-life needs.





Inquiry-based Learning in Social Studies

The Social Studies Unit organised Learning Journeys for students to various locations in Singapore.

At the Tiong Bahru Market and in Chinatown, Newtowners explored if common spaces in Singapore were effective in facilitating interactions among people of different backgrounds. Some students visited the Singapore Sports Hub where they learned about the role of sports in building our national identity.





A group of students found out more about Singapore's endeavours in continuing education from the Institute of Lifelong Learning, while another group visited the Sustainable Singapore Gallery to learn about Singapore's sustainability efforts.

Active Lifestyle for Life Programme

I'm in Charge! Active Lifestyle for Life Programme has helped our students embrace holistic well-being and given them intrinsic motivation to lead an active healthy lifestyle. The students explored the use of step counters and motivational music to engage in physical activities such as Dodgeball, Frisbee, Captains Ball and NERF activities. Health Bites were also shared to empower students to manage their health.

The students reflected and shared their key learning points, showing appreciation for their peers and teachers.



Sports Carnival

The much awaited Sports Carnival 2019 saw an overwhelming participation by students from all levels competing for the Championship title.

Entrenched in an enthusiastic and encouraging culture, our New Town Sports Carnival 2019 promoted sportsmanship and excellence through sports. Valuing friendship over victory, competitive teams were able to manage conflicts and resolve differences with one another. It was heartening to see a strong number of supporters who came with banners to support their peers.





There was strong competition across classes to achieve the top four prizes. The different games for the different levels (Secondary 1 - Frisbee, Secondary 2 - Tchoukball, Secondary 3 - Floorball and Secondary 4 - Captain's Ball) provided our Newtowners the opportunity to demonstrate their athletic skills which they have developed during Physical Education lessons.

Congratulations to the 2019 Class Champions, 1E2, 2N6, 3N5 and 4N6!

Past us Present Games







The Past vs Present Games is an annual event where our New Town Alumni and current students come together to compete in a friendly competition through sports and activities. Many of our alumni came back specially to meet their former teachers and also to catch up with one another.

Sports events such as basketball, football, frisbee, captain's ball, badminton and table tennis were enjoyed by one and all. Indoor activities included movie screening, face and hand painting and a karaoke sing-along session. Many of our secondary four students turned up in full force to play and battle with our alumni. Both the alumni and students had an enjoyable time!

National Cadet Corps





In July 2019, our Secondary Two NCC cadets invited Nan Hua High and NUS High School cadets to our school for a cluster training session. Our cadets had a chance to lead and teach the skill of knot tying to cadets from other schools. They would be able to apply the skill in future to build simple structures which are essential for jungle survival.

National Police Cadet Corps

On 2 August 2019, the Sec One and Sec Two NPCC cadets went to Mount Faber for a hike. The cadets journeyed four kilometres in sunny weather, visiting the Henderson Waves, Southern Ridges and Hort Park. The Sec Two cadets encouraged and motivated the juniors with sing-along, while the Sec One cadets shared their knowledge of Singapore history. Even though it was their first hike, the cadets enjoyed themselves and had an enriching experience.





Girl Guides

Upholding the 'Guiding Spirit', the Girl Guides contributed to the success of the World Thinking Day Roadshow and Carnival. The annual camp activities also saw the girls strengthening their resilience. During the West Division Day, our Unit conducted an interactive game session and achieved the Gold award. The girls also led campfire games during the West Division Campfire. All these activities helped to hone self-confidence in the girls.



Scouts





Our New Town scouts visited the residents at Buona Vista and Clementi HDB flats to explain how to prevent dengue mosquitoes breeding at home. The scouts also offered their services to the residents and carried out their Jobweek activities earnestly.

The scouts participated in the tactical field war games at Hyperforce@ West Coast which required them to forge teamwork and carefully plan and carry out their missions. The High Elements Enrichment course was another thrilling and exciting adventure course for them.

Our students from the performing arts co-curricular activities participated in

Chinese Contemporary Dance

Our dancers participated in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts (SYF) presentation on 18th April 2019 and achieved a Certificate of Distinction. The dance combined traditional Chinese dance movements with contemporary music and SYF presentation was an excellent platform for our dancers to share their talents and passion with the audience and judges. This enriching journey has moulded the dancers to stay united and motivated, strive for excellence and enjoy themselves on stage. The students will always dearly treasure these memories.





Guzheng

The Guzheng Ensemble nurtures students' intrinsic motivation and joy of learning by cultivating an interest in the instruments that they play and in guzheng music.

This year was an important milestone for the students as they have achieved the Certificate of Distinction at the Singapore Youth Festival Arts (SYF) Presentation. The ensemble accomplished Distinction for two consecutive SYF Presentations. This meaningful experience has enabled the Guzheng Ensemble to work as a team. The memories made will be treasured by the students even after graduating from New Town.





the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation and attained various awards

Ethnic Fusion Dance





The Ethnic Fusion Dance achieved the Certificate of Accomplishment in the 2019 Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. This award was made possible by the hard work of the dancers who were committed to do their best in the performance. Most importantly, the dancers learnt the meaning of teamwork and perseverance through the joy of dancing.

Concert Band





It was a fulfilling and memorable year for our musicians as they were exposed to various performances during school events. These include the CCA Open House and our 54th School Commendation Day. The students had a one-day camp in June 2019 where bonding and great friendship was fostered. Some of our members performed at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music-NUS during the Band Directors' Association Adventure Band Camp.

During the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation on 15 April 2019, the Concert Band attained the Certificate of Accomplishment. The students' preserverance and pursuit of excellence enabled them to achieve this accolade.

Badminton

The students in the Badminton CCA trained hard for the National School Games Badminton Championships that took place in early 2019.

Our students played against many strong and skilful opponents in the West Zone. Although most members of the team were new to the sport and started playing badminton competitively only after joining the CCA, they exhibited sportsmanship in every match that they played.



Basketball



With an emphasis on dedication, determination and discipline, our New Town Basketball team believes in unity through diversity. The team trained hard for the National School Games (NSG) West Zone Basketball Championships all year round and went for each match with greater mental and physical resilience. The 'B' Division boys did us proud by qualifying for the second round in the NSG West Zone Games.

In our journey towards excellence, the professional team of Singapore Slingers conducted an inspirational training for our players. Another activity was our 2-day camp which sought to deepen the players' passion through a learning journey at ShotZone.

Football (Boys)





The Football Team trained hard for the National School Games Football Competition and it was an exciting year for the team. The boys have gained invaluable experience through the victories as well as the losses. Their resilience and hard work during training also paid off as the team successfully defended the school's Cross-Country title.

Table Tennis

The 'B' Division Boys Table Tennis team participated in the West Zone Championships 2019. The boys practised hard and played with resilience. Though the team did not win enough matches to proceed further in the tournament, the boys enjoyed taking up the challenge and building their confidence.





Softball (Girls)



Softball is an intensive sport that inculcates core values such as respect, responsibility and discipline. It builds up character, teamwork, skills and fitness in the players.

This year the girls participated in the 'B' and 'C' Divisions National Softball Girls Championship and the annual Singapore Recreational Club Carnival. Our players strove to overcome the challenges that came their way and worked together as a team during the matches.

Art Club

The Art Club students participated in the Annual Draw My Stamp Story Art Competition organised by Singapore Philatelic Museum and won two Gold, four Silver and two Bronze awards. The winning entries were displayed at the National Library.

The Art Club organised an Inter-level Painting Competition for its members, allowing them to experiment with the creation of artwork on a canvas tote bag. Some of our Manga club members embarked on a digital Manga workshop and learned about illustration and shading of Manga characters using the iPad.



Media and Communications Club

It was a fruitful year for the Media and Communications Club as the members participated in a myriad of competitions and provided audio visual, photography and videography support for various school events. The students participated in 'Our Schools Our Stories' contest, capturing memorable moments in our school, and 'SG75: Our Singapore Competition', producing two videos which expressed their vision and hope for Singapore.





Creative Readers' Club



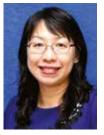
Members of the Creative Readers Club visited pre-school children at the YMCA Child Development Centre @Bukit Batok in July 2019 to read popular stories to the children. Our students captivated the young audience with their lively story-telling and animated dramatisation. It was an enriching experience for the members and they look forward to more story telling sessions.

2019 National Day Awardees



Commendation Medal Ms Kwa Bee Hoon (HOD/Humanities)

Officer who has distinguished oneself through commendable performance and conduct, or with significant efficiency, competence and devotion in one's duty



Long Service Medal
Mdm Teo Ting Ting (Mrs Chua)
Vice-Principal

A duty holder of irreproachable character and has completed at least 25 years of service

Ministry of Education Service Excellence Award

Congratulations to Mr Koh Chee Yong James and Mr Hussin Sulaiman for receiving the Ministry of Education Service Excellence Award Silver!

The Award recognises staff who are passionate about serving their internal and external customers with care, accessibility, responsiveness and effectiveness and inspire their colleagues to do likewise.





Our New Staff



from left to right: Mr Kang Cheong Hee (Operations Manager), Ms Nor Azizah Bte Saiyadi (Adjunct Corporate Support Officer), Ms Lim Kaiwen (Assistant Year Head)

Staff Training and Team Building

The theme for this year's Staff Learning Journey was "Challenging Mindsets, Pushing Boundaries" and it certainly changed the staff's perceptions about what they are able to do. They gathered at the NTU Alumni Club for an afternoon of music making on 27 June 2019. There was great teamwork and camaraderie during the practice sessions, and the spirit of resilience was evident in many as they struggled to learn new and unfamiliar things. This session certainly achieved its objectives of team building and forging a growth mindset!

In the morning of the same day, the Contemporary Issues Core Team organised a workshop for all teachers on contemporary issues and facilitation in CCE. Focusing on the theme 'Inspiring Our Students to be Citizens of Character,' this is the third workshop for teachers as the school continues its journey in building the capacity of teachers in facilitating discussions with multiple perspectives in the CCE classroom.





