



COMMUNICARE

2014 issue 2 | tanjong katong secondary school





The TK curriculum is designed to help our students grow to become young people who are self-directed, passionate, confident, resilient and flexible, and who are guided by sound values to lead and contribute to school, nation and the global community. In short, all learning experiences at TK are aimed at developing young people who will not only have the competencies to be future-ready, but who also have the confidence and moral compass to step forward and be a leader in society. Earlier this year, with these curricular aims in mind, the school refined our strategic thrusts and carried out systemic reviews of various components of the TK curriculum, including Project Work & Student Research, CCE, CCA and the Globalisation@TK programme. These efforts are part and parcel of the continuous drive at TK to always seek better ways of doing things, in order to strengthen, enrich and improve the TK Experience and outcomes for our students. Some improvements have already been implemented, such as changes to the PW product format and assessment, the introduction of the Intergenerational Learning Programme for Sec 2 VIA, the introduction of SKILLS for Sec One students, and the establishment of a new Year Head structure to strengthen holistic support at every level. In the coming months, we will continue to strengthen further the delivery of the instructional curriculum and the co-curriculum in school.

Parents and visitors to TK may also have noticed the newly designed celebration wall near the front entrance to the school. The words "Where Excellence Abounds and Aspirations are Nurtured" feature our Vision; the graphics on the wall tell the story of our school's rich tradition of striving for all-round excellence and our belief in supporting the high aspirations of both students and staff. The stories chronicled in this issue of *Communicare* give a glimpse of the richness of the TK

Experience, and how the culture of excellence is shared and valued by all members of Team TK. This year has brought the entire Team TK closer together, as for the first time, we organised the TK Gives Back Day, which saw TK students from the past and present walking together for charity. The new TK Heritage Lab was also launched by Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, himself an alumnus of TK, in celebration of the rich heritage of the school and its neighbouring community.

As 2014 draws to a close, I would like to thank all our partners, and parents, for their unwavering support of the school, and I wish everyone a good time of rest with family and friends.

Mdm Haslinda Zamani

CONTENTS

- 02 EXCELLENCE
- 05 STUDENT VOICE
- 08 PARTNERSHIPS
- 09 STAFF MATTERS
- 10 TK GRADUATES
- 11 TK GIVES BACK



commūnicāre

– (Latin) Verb. 'to share; communicate; unite'

Education is a community effort. *Communicare* fosters a closer relationship between the school and its stakeholders and partners as we work together to nurture our students to their full potential.

NCC (Sea) ▶

TK NCC Sea was awarded the prestigious CM Phillips Award in May 2014. This is the highest accolade given to NCC (Sea) units in Singapore and is awarded to schools that have attained Gold for the annual Best Unit Competition for ten consecutive years. The sustained efforts of the TK NCC (Sea) unit, year on year, as the cadets continuously upheld the highest standards of discipline in competitive and non-competitive areas, had allowed the unit to bring back this honour. Our heartiest congratulations to TK NCC (Sea)!



◀ Red Cross Youth

On 30 August, TK Red Cross Youth (RCY) sent a team of 4 students, **Hong Jing Yang**, **Jonathan Edbert Muliadi**, **Lai John Paolo Jumalon** and **Cheah Hao Yuan**, to participate in the annual Current Affairs Competition conducted by RCY Headquarters. We are pleased to announce that TK RCY won 2nd in the East District!

"Through participating in this competition, I got to know my teammates better, and also learnt how to manage my time better. Participating in this competition was also an eye-opener for me, as it broadened my view of the world to those who were suffering due to natural disasters and the resultant destruction caused. This made me more appreciative of the fact that Singapore does not experience any natural disasters." - **Cheah Hao Yuan (2C)**



Floorball ▶

The 'C' Division Floorball girls once again made history by reaching the finals of the National Inter-School Floorball Championships. With the support and encouragement of their seniors and the entire Secondary One and Two levels that had gone down to witness the match at Bedok Sports Hall, they battled against Bukit Merah Secondary School. It was a heart-stopping match and they eventually emerged 2nd in the Nationals. Well done, girls!



◀ Football

Having won 3rd place in the East Zone Inter-School Football Championship, the 'B' Division Football boys did TK proud by reaching the Nationals. They fought hard and went on to play in a historic match against Marsiling Secondary School at the Jalan Besar Stadium. Amidst the cheering of the 'C' Division boys and the entire Secondary Three level that had gone down to support them, Team TK beat Marsiling with a score of 1-0 to emerge as National 2nd runners-up. Great job, boys!



Golf ▶

Our golfers have done well for the Inter-school PC Division Golf Championships. **Charlotte Lim (2G)** emerged 1st runner-up for the 1st League and Champion for the 2nd and 3rd League in the Interschool PC Golf Championship. **Ethan Lim (2B)** emerged Champion for the 1st League and 2nd runner-up for the 3rd League. **Lester Lim (2G)** was 1st runner-up for the 3rd League. For the team category, TK golfers won the 1st runner up for the Overall Team PC Division. **Kyle Muir (4F)** emerged 1st place for the League Handicap Division. Congratulations!



TK Choir ▶

In June this year, the choir went to Hong Kong for a cultural immersion trip as well as to compete in the 2nd Asia Cantate, a prestigious competition that brings together outstanding choirs from around Asia to not only compete but to learn and grow culturally. We are delighted that TK Choir was awarded a Gold B in the Junior Mixed Youth category, emerging as champions of that category. Congratulations on the win!



◀ TK Band

As part of the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Celebrations in July, various schools and youths performed at Gardens by the Bay for the first time. TK Band was invited to reprise a segment of their winning performance during the SYF Arts Presentation in April, at the Supertree stage. The marching bands from Bowen Secondary School and West Spring Secondary School also participated in this event.

"I was thrilled to get another chance to perform our winning show. It was great getting to know the members from other bands, and it was a fantastic experience overall as we had a golden opportunity share our music with the public."

- Sean Ng (3F)

Raffles Model United Nations Conference ▶

The Raffles Model United Nations (RMUN) Conference 2014, from 2-4 June, was a competition cum debate that provides students with the complete United Nations (UN) experience. Six Secondary Three students represented the school, and learnt how the UN functions and how decisions are made by the various UN councils.

"The interesting discussions between the 'delegates' were eye opening and provided me with a new perspective on the entire decision-making process. It was a long and difficult process to come to a final decision, since we had to examine a particular issue from the different points of view of various countries. In trying to garner support for my opinion, I put into practice the public speaking skills I have learned as a Student Councillor. I gained new admiration for the delegates and diplomats who represent their country at the actual UN councils."

- David Chew (3F)



From left :

Huzefa Aliasgar Maimoon (3D)

Karthik Vyas (3D)

Liu Siye (3A)

David Chew En-Lai (3F)

Sherlyn Pay Zhi Ning (3D)

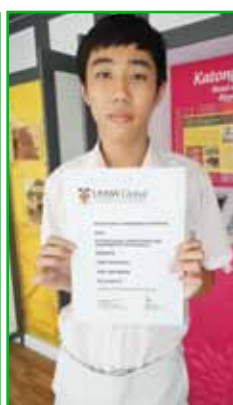
Haikal Afiq B Mohd Rizal (3B)

◀ Mathematics and Science Competitions

In the annual New South Wales Science Competition, 39 Secondary Two students were awarded Distinctions. **Soo Jun Boon (2C)** was awarded High Distinction.

17 Secondary One students and 22 Secondary Two students received Distinctions in the annual Australian Mathematics Competition. **Joshua Yip (1E)** was awarded High Distinction.

For the Singapore Mathematical Olympiad, TK students achieved one Gold, four Silvers, nine Bronzes and eight Honourable Mentions in both Junior and Senior Categories. **Joshua Yip (1E)** was the Gold recipient from TK. Congratulations to all for doing well!



NYP Annual Science & Technology Competition

Team TK emerged Champions for the Radio Controlled Aircraft category of the annual Nanyang Polytechnic Science and Technology Challenge on 17 October. 24 Secondary Two students represented the school, and it was an intense battle among 32 schools from all over Singapore.

Each team had to take into consideration three important criteria: the plane had to be able to take off properly; it had to be able to fly above an obstacle of a designated height; and it had to be able to do a proper landing.

The winning team comprised **Charlene Lim Zhi Yu (2E)**, **Vanessa Lam Cai Ling (2E)**, **Muhammad Aamir Sajid Shaikh (2E)** and **Abhay Rajesh (2E)**.



Malay Language & Culture Fiesta). Several students did the school proud in the Zonal Creative Writing Competition. **Tengku Mohammed Naqib (1E)** clinched 1st place, for the Secondary One Category, **Mohammed Luqman Abdul Rahman (3C)** came in 2nd runner-up for the Secondary Three Category, and **Mohammed Mukmin Mohammed Azmi (4G)** clinched 1st place for the Secondary Four Category.

Secondary Three students, **Miza Syazwani (3C)** and **Muhammad Luqman B Abdul Rahman (3C)**, had another opportunity to learn more about Malay history and culture as they were selected as Malay Language student ambassadors. After attending training sessions, both students took on the role of museum guides at the Asian Civilization Museums for two days.

"Being a museum guide taught me to be more confident when speaking in front of a crowd. I have also started to encourage my friends to appreciate and use Malay more in their daily lives. All in all, it was a wonderful experience."

– **Miza Syazwani (3C)**

Enriching Malay Language Learning

In TK, students have opportunities to participate in external programmes and activities to enrich their learning experiences.

On 9 September, TK participated in the Fiesta Bahasa & Budaya Melayu Kelompok E5 (E5 Cluster

National Colours Award

The prestigious Colours Award given by the Singapore Schools Sports Council (SSSC) recognises students for their contributions in representing the school and achievements in sports and games within the SSSC calendar.

Nur Fadzlyn Binte Mohd Zahrudin was awarded the Zonal Colours Award for having won Gold at the National Inter-School Taekwondo Championships 2014. She was also awarded the National Colours Award for having represented Singapore at the 2014 ASEAN School Games.

The Team Colours are given to teams who come in top 4 at Nationals in the National School Games and the teams that have won are: **'B' Division Floorball**, **'C' Division Floorball**, **'B' Division Football** and **'C' Division Netball**.



Singapore International Water Festival

On 7 June, some of the NCC (Sea) cadets and Secondary Three students took part in the Singapore International Water Festival 2014.

Liu Siye (3A) was awarded the consolation prize in the Dragon Boat Art Competition, while our NCC team came in 5th among the schools that participated in the Dragon Boat race.

NCC at Geylang Serai CC's National Day Observance Ceremony



TK's NCC Land and Sea Units took part in the Geylang Serai Community Centre's National Day Observance Ceremony. There were two parts to the celebration: a TK NCC parade contingent as well as a Precision Drill Squad (PDS) and Freestyle Drill (FSD) performance. Dr Fatimah Lateef, Member of Parliament for Marine Parade, was the Guest-of-Honour and performed the inspection of the parade. The exhilarating performance that followed brought great joy and

excitement to the residents who took part in the ceremony. The unprecedented TK Sea's FSD and PDS hybrid performance was performed to perfection and the residents cheered them on enthusiastically.

"It took us a few months to come up with the hybrid performance but it was worth all the time and effort as we performed our routine to perfection. TK Land's PDS performance was equally spectacular. I could see the joy we brought to the residents and I am grateful for the opportunity." – **Jorgan Ong (3C)**

NPCC at Marine Parade NPC



On 22 July, the Secondary Two NPCC cadets visited the Marine Parade Neighbourhood Police Centre. This was the first time such a visit was organised and, from the unabashed grins on their faces, the cadets certainly enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The cadets were brought around by the police officers stationed there and given a behind-the-scenes look at the daily operations at the police centre.

They were also introduced to some of the more unique equipment kept at the police centre, such as riot gear and even bee suits. Nearing the end of the visit, the police officers shared engaging and intriguing personal anecdotes with the cadets. It was truly a memorable experience for the cadets as the visit provided the cadets with a unique and enriching learning experience.

Layla Harris in SYF Youth Got Talent



The *SYF Youth Got Talent* is an event for youths to showcase their talents. After being put through a rigorous selection and audition process, TK student **Layla Harris (4E)** was selected as one of the top 10 in her category to perform on 4 July at the Gardens by the Bay.

the encouragement from my family, friends and Mr Lawrence Siao who came to support me that day. It was an unforgettable and valuable experience performing at a public venue for the first time." - **Layla Harris (4E)**

"My family encouraged me to participate in the event as they knew how much I love singing and playing the piano. I was nervous but managed to perform at my best. I truly appreciated

Sec 2 iPad Music Programme



The use of IT in education to enhance and transform learning is an integral part of the TK education experience. This year, Secondary Two students were able to make use of iPads introduced during music lessons to engage with music in an innovative and hands-on fashion. The iPads were used to teach students about electronic music and students were able to try out a wider range of musical instruments available on the iPad app.

"I felt that the music lessons were interesting and they allow students who do not have formal music training to also try out and listen to the different sounds made by the different instruments."

- **Scarlett Tay (2E)**

Student Research Trip to Bali



In the course of the Secondary Three Student Research programme, various groups of TK students went on study trips as part of their inquiry experience for their respective projects. 20 students from the TKHerba project went to Bali, Indonesia during the June holidays. Students learnt about the various herbs used in cooking as well as how natural resources like bamboo can be used to make buildings. Students also visited The Green School where they experienced first-hand, how to make compost out of cow dung and food waste. The team

even had the opportunity to make organic chocolate from cocoa fruit.

“The whole experience was a very memorable one. We learnt about all kinds of herbs such as how turmeric can be used to make a tonic drink. We were also taught the various ways we can make use of herbs like ginger and galangal to make organic products like body scrubs. I gained a lot of insight and knowledge.” - **Muhd Luqman (3C)**

Student Research Trip to Taiwan



A trip to Taiwan from 31 May to 4 June enabled Secondary Three students carrying out a student research project, to understand the unique cultures and characteristics of Taiwanese night markets, thereby providing deeper insights to the many facets of urban life in Taiwan. Students were also tasked to carry out a comparative study of the night markets of Singapore and Taiwan, and explore the reasons why Singapore's *pasar malam* (night market) has lost much of its lustre.

of the food culture in the lives of the Taiwanese people. Food is cheap and delicious, and each specialty provided insight to the area it originated from.

“We visited many of the attractions such as the world renowned Taipei 101 and National Palace Museum. We also went to Zhengde Junior High School to converse with the Taiwan students. This proved to be extremely insightful as we learnt what a student's life is like in a Taiwan school.” - **Ernest Chin (3F)**



“We visited many of the famous Taiwan night markets and were given the opportunity to savour the delicious ‘*xiao chi*’ (snacks) sold at the night markets. The myriad of typical Taiwanese snacks available there illustrated the importance

Shakespeare In The Park



For many Secondary Two and a handful of Secondary Three students, May marked their maiden encounter with theatre under the stars, and they could not have asked for a better and more unique venue. They sat companionably on the ground sheets and picnic mats they had painstakingly lugged with them all the way to the lush and picturesque Fort Canning Park. Under the inky night sky adorned with a smattering of stars, they feasted their eyes on an impressively constructed stage, lit in almost futuristic shades of cool blue. The informal setting allowed the students to munch on and share their snacks with glee, while they stared transfixed at the action unfolding onstage.

humorously updated and localised for the modern Singaporean audience. When the play ended, the audience roared in approval while several members of the audience gave the actors a standing ovation. It was truly a night to remember.

“The atmosphere was very relaxing. The actors were very well prepared and executed the play perfectly.” - **Farah Bte Abdul Manaf (3G)**

“Despite the modern setting, the play was still familiar and we were able to relate to it. Watching the play with my classmates under the stars was an experience that cannot be replicated. I highly recommend it to everyone!”

- **Muhammad Aiman Bin Muhammad Faudzan (3G)**



For two wondrous hours, students and teachers alike indulged in a powerful and engaging performance of *The Merchant of Venice*, which had been cleverly and

National Day



The theme for National Day was "Our People, Our Home". The celebrations started with the march-in of the various uniformed group contingents and an inspection by Mdm Haslinda.

In line with the theme, students from the various performing arts groups came together and put up an entertaining and engaging musical celebrating Singapore. The uniformed groups also put up a series of exciting precision drill performances.

TK hosted members of the community from St Hilda's Community Services and the Association for Persons with Special Needs who joined us once again for the festivities.

CCA Leaders' Investiture



On the morning of 16 September, the school hall crackled with energy and was abuzz with excitement. The respective CCA leaders sat in rows flanking the sides of the hall, dressed in their smart, neatly pressed uniforms or proudly designed CCA T-shirts. Some of them shifted nervously in their seats while others chatted animatedly amongst themselves. There were also those who looked more focused than they had ever been in their lives, sitting ramrod straight with rarely seen serious expressions on their faces. A hush came over the staff and students alike when the ceremony finally began.

Mdm Haslinda kick-started the event with her usual flair, posing this question to the CCA leaders:

What legacy will you leave behind?

She highlighted the 'Three Cs' which every leader should strive to be - Competent, Compassionate and Constructive.

Competent: so that they can and will lead by example.

Compassionate: so that their juniors and peers will know that their leaders care for and empathise with them.

Constructive: so that when faced with obstacles, the leaders will hold on to their optimistic, can-do mindsets and will not give up until they find solutions to their problems.

Mdm Haslinda then rounded up her address very nicely by quoting that famous line in the TK School Song: "It's one for all, and all for one."

With pride in every step, the top CCA leaders went up on stage one by one, to receive their Certificates of Appointment, amidst rousing applause and appreciative cheering from their peers and juniors. Together, they raised their right hands and recited the CCA Leaders' Pledge, vowing to always give their best and work together with their various CCAs to leave a legacy behind.

"I felt very honoured and proud to represent Girl Guides and receive my certificate and plaque. Seeing my juniors seated in front of me made me want to strive even harder to be an exemplary role model for all of them. I hope to work hard together with my batch mates and leave behind a worthy legacy when we step down."

- Tracy Loh Ke Ying (3A)

"I felt grateful that my teachers and team mates recognised my efforts and believe in my potential to lead TK Netball. My goal is for us to train hard and support one another, so that together we can soar to even greater heights!"

- Chen Si Shann, Shannon (3A)

Breakfast with School Leaders and Parents



In August, breakfast sessions were held at TK for parents and school leaders to meet in a more informal setting, to share ideas and strengthen school-family partnerships.

During the sessions, parents, together with the Principal, Vice Principals and Year Heads, had lively conversations over breakfast. It was a good opportunity for parents to network with other parents from the same level, as well as to develop synergistic partnerships with school.

Racial Harmony

"If life isn't about human beings and living in harmony, then I don't know what it's about."

- Orlando Bloom



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Racial Riots that broke out on 21 July, 1964. It is a stark reminder to all of us about how important it is to live in harmony in a multi-cultural society. TK celebrated Racial Harmony Day on 23 July. The theme this year is 'Harmony from the Heart', highlighting how genuine harmony can only be achieved if everyone makes a concerted effort to understand one another's culture and customs.

The Parent Support Group played a significant role in our celebrations. They displayed their culinary skills and conducted hands-on sessions with students and teachers in preparing local delights such as Mooncakes and Lepat Pisang.

There was also a talk on Racial Harmony for Secondary Four students by Guest Speaker, Captain Abu Bakar B. Abdillah Alkatib, an alumnus who graduated in 2002. He won the prestigious Sword-of-Honour from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, United Kingdom. Captain Abu Bakar related his own experiences with racial discrimination and commented on how Singapore has shown the world that people of diverse cultures and backgrounds could live together peacefully.

It was a delight to see many of our students and teachers don their traditional costumes for the occasion. The happiness we all felt on that day only underscored how precious racial harmony is and how we all must play our part to protect it.

TK Alumni Golf Tournament 2014

"A golfer's diet: live on greens as much as possible."

- Author Unknown



The much anticipated TK Alumni Golf Tournament, a bi-annual event, took place on 15 August, at the Singapore Island Country Club SIME Course. Even though a downpour delayed the start of the tournament by one and a half hours, it did not dampen the spirits of the golfers. There were close to a hundred participants, the highest since the first tournament was initiated in 2006.

Mr Lim Biow Chuan, who was one of the participants, graced the occasion as the Guest-of- Honour.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our alumni golfers to meet with their class and schoolmates, friends and special guests to greet and interact with one another at the course and also at the dinner that followed at the Bukit Room in the Club.

The dinner was marked by fun, laughter and excitement, especially during the Lucky Draw Session and at the charity auction of two paintings by our former Art teacher, Mrs. Valerie Tan Ai Ling, who was also present at the dinner.

Project Serve



On 25 October, 133 students and 20 teachers refurbished sixteen homes in the Kampung Arang and Chai Chee area as part of a community outreach project, Project Serve. They painted and cleaned the homes of the elderly and households in need. This is an annual partnership project with St Hilda's Community Services and PPIS Family Service Centre in Chai Chee and is in its sixth year. The students involved in this project were from the various Uniformed Groups, Computer Club, Floorball, Soccer and the Student Council. Before the main event, the students helped to plan and raise funds for this massive undertaking.

It was a day of hard work for all involved, but the tasks were completed with great enthusiasm, teamwork and determination. The smiles on the faces of the residents as the students and teachers wrapped up after a job well done made it all worthwhile.

"Through Project Serve, we could help the less fortunate make their lives better and bring a smile to their faces."

- Celine Nursalim (3D)



MERGA

A team of TK teachers participated in the Mathematics Education Research Group (MERGA) conference held in Sydney this year, where they shared their experiences and learnt from pedagogical experts who gave presentations

Mr Kang Hway Choon, Mdm Halilah Binte Salim Alkhatib and Ms Irene Chen presented a paper titled 'Enhancing Productive Mathematical Noticing During Lesson Planning with Lesson Play' at this conference. The teachers learnt first-hand from regional experts and practitioners about various inherent challenges in the teaching of Mathematics as well as strategies to overcome them.

"MERGA 2014 has deepened my appreciation for the teaching and learning of Mathematics. I had the chance to connect with regional educators who shared the same passion and commitment to the artistry of Mathematics teaching. This conference, as well as the opportunity to present, was enriching, insightful and fulfilling." - **Mdm Halilah Binte Salim Alkhatib**

Teachers' Day Celebration cum TK Road Run



TK's Student Leadership Framework featured

TK teachers were featured in Singteach Issue 49, an NIE magazine dedicated to improving teaching and enhancing learning. The article showed how TK grooms student leaders to become altruistic leaders and focused on the social awareness campaigns run by the TK Student Council for the entire school, starting from the first student-led and student-initiated social awareness campaign against bullying in 2008. This authentic platform allows students to serve the school community and to become individuals who are competent, compassionate and constructive – values that are the keys to success in any field.

Mdm Halilah Binte Salim Alkhatib, Ms Irene Chen and Mdm Loo Ming Yang were interviewed about how they shaped this programme by guiding and coaching the students.

"It's not easy to develop altruism in a person unless an experiential learning platform is provided." - **Ms Irene Chen**

"As teachers, we need to ensure the quality of the campaign ... We approve and validate the proposal and materials prepared by the organising committee, and critique their rehearsals." - **Mdm Loo Ming Yang**

The annual TK Road Run was held on 4 September at a picturesque new location – an invigorating route at Bay East Gardens. It was a mass run; students, staff, alumni, parents and friends all gathered under clear blue skies and in high spirits to compete in the 4 km run. The scenic route led them towards Marina Bay, where they took in the view of the iconic Supertrees at Gardens by the Bay and the Marina Bay skyline. The Competitive Run segment saw Da Vinci House fend off stiff competition to emerge victorious.

After the Road Run, the students and teachers settled down to a picnic. They were also treated to a mini-concert. It was all in appreciation of the teachers who work tirelessly to help them to excel.



International Seminar on the Pedagogy of Malay, Indonesian and Other Languages II (PMIOL II) 2014

Four TK teachers from the Malay Language Unit participated in The International Seminar on the Pedagogy of Malay, Indonesian and Other Languages II was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in June. **Mdm Rasidah Mohd Rasit** (Subject Head for Mother Tongue Language) shared on a teaching strategy entitled, 'Use of Writing Frames and ICT to Improve Students' Expository Writing Skills'. **Ms Nur Ain Mohd Amin, Ms Nurul 'Ain Kamarulzaman and Ms Noorashikin Mohd Ishak** shared on Tanjung Katong Secondary School's unique programme called 'Project Runway: Malay Traditional Outfit' which is in line with MOE's Mother Tongue Languages Fortnight initiative.

The experience was very valuable as the seminar was a platform for teachers, researchers, and lecturers to come together and understand the learning needs of the new generation of students and also to share effective teaching strategies to cater to the needs of students.

The staff and School Advisory Committee (SAC) members then adjourned to Fond Garden Restaurant, Kallang Theatre, for a special Teachers' Day Lunch, which was generously hosted by the SAC, that has continually shown strong support for this event. The theme for this year's Teachers' Day Lunch was the sports themed "Teacherlympics". During the table games, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and peals of laughter rang throughout the restaurant. All 113 staff members received Lucky Draw prizes, which had been sponsored by the SAC. It was truly a fitting celebration of the hard work and dedicated service of the teachers and non-teaching staff!

The Road Less Travelled: TK Graduates make waves at Institutions of Higher Learning

It is often said that the recipe for success is to “Know Thyself”. Outstanding achievement comes from knowing your interests and where your passion lies. When human beings do something they love and have some talent for, they are unstoppable! They make waves as their achievements are extraordinary. Both **Jared Kang** and **Muhammad Hidayat**, TK alumni, personify the attributes of a TK Graduate.



Jared Kang Chern Wey

Even with an L1R5 aggregate score of 6 points (obtained for the GCE 'O' Level Examination), Jared Kang, who graduated from TK in 2010 chose to enter Temasek Polytechnic (TP) to pursue a Diploma in Law & Management at the School of Business. With a good command of the language, and a flair for speaking, Jared set his sights on pursuing Law as a career. During his time in TP, Jared found time to write five guidebooks for procedural and substantive law subjects such as criminal procedure and intellectual property. He completed the Diploma Plus Programme, and received a Certificate in Psychology Fundamentals.

Not surprisingly, Jared distinguished himself in TP by being the first student in the Diploma in Law & Management programme to graduate with a perfect 4.00 cumulative grade point average (GPA). He was quoted as being ‘an extraordinary, highly gifted individual, who thrives on knowledge and strives for perfection in everything he does.’

During his time in TP, Jared won many accolades. He received the Singapore Academy of Law Gold Medal as the top student in his course of study, and the Lee Kong Chian Award as the top student in TP’s entire School of Business. Jared also had myriad achievements in his co-curricular activities: he was named the Champion and Best Speaker of the Justice Shield Law Advocacy Competition (a moot criminal trial competition), and clinched the Distinguished Toastmaster Award from Toastmasters International. At age 20, he is the youngest person to receive this award in the history of the organisation since 1924. He also received a Public Service Commission Singapore (PSC) Singapore Government Scholarship (Open), and will apply to read Law in the University of Cambridge after completing his national service.



Muhammad Nur Hidayat Bin Rasiti

“The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears or the sea.”
- Isak Dinesen

Hidayat’s love for the sea and boats began in his early childhood. Numerous anecdotes narrated to him about his seafaring grandfather’s visits to exotic lands far away intrigued him. Inspired by his grandfather’s adventures at sea, Hidayat set his heart on sailing the seas.

After receiving his GCE 'O' Level Results, the young TK alumnus chose to pursue a diploma course in Marine Engineering at the Singapore Polytechnic (SP). He was sure this course would provide him with the basic skills to becoming a marine engineer.

He then proceeded to do his internship with the Health Safety and Environment Development at Sembawang Shipyard where he had the opportunity to board various vessels ranging from crude oil tankers to oil rigs. The internship was intense. However, he showed his mettle in facing the challenges of a seafaring career, and displayed the in-depth knowledge and skills required to contribute to the Marine Industry as a marine engineer.

Hidayat is an avid rock climber. He and his team representing the SP Rock Climbing Club were awarded the Gold Medal at the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) Heritage Competition in 2012. He also participated in the SP Outstanding Talent Programme. As an executive member of the SP Malay Language Society, he helped to raise funds for an indigenous village and orphanage in Malaysia. His accolades also include, the Lee Kuan Yew Award, Sembcorp Marine Gold Award, Keppel Offshore and Marine Award and other prizes from various organisations.

Hidayat aspires to take up a degree in Naval Architecture offered by the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne at the Singapore Institute of Technology.





11 October marked the Alumni event, TK Gives Back, as well as the launch and opening of the TK Heritage Lab. TK Gives Back 2014 started with a charity walk by alumni members across the six decades of the school, together with members of the School Advisory Committee, staff and students. The school also presented donations to community organisations from its proceeds from the annual TK Charity Bazaar.

Under the Southeast CDC 5E+ programme, NTUC Fairprice sponsored one bowl of white rice and one bowl of brown rice for charity for every 200 metres walked by participants. The route for the walk, along Tanjong Katong Road, was one that is familiar to generations of TK students and included a stop at the canteen of the old school campus, now a popular public foodcourt.

Our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Second Minister for the Ministry of Communications and Information, graced the event to launch the TK Heritage Lab, and gamely participated in the charity walk as well. The TK Heritage Lab is a collaborative project between the National Heritage Board (NHB) and TK, designed as a space for authentic learning in a range of subject disciplines, and to deepen students' appreciation for the rich heritage of the school and its community.

Mr Lawrence Wong flagged off the walk and the participants, together with staff and students of the school, set off in high spirits and good cheer. Enroute, there were various interactive group activities for the participants to engage in at various trail stations. This included a Food Tasting Challenge at the Katong News Agency, where participants were blindfolded, fed and then asked to identify a myriad of local snacks that were popular in the 1980s.

As a result of the enthusiastic and energetic participation of all involved, the total distance clocked resulted in the sponsorship of a grand of 10,659 bowls of rice.

The participants then made their way to the school hall, where they were addressed by the Principal, Mdm Haslinda, followed by Mr Lawrence Wong. Mr Wong also presented donations to various community organisations from funds raised by the TK Charity Bazaar.

Mr Lawrence Wong then went on to launch the Heritage Lab and toured the vibrantly coloured and modern TK Heritage Lab, led by student guides who had undergone training under the NHB student museum guide programme.

TK Gives Back was truly an event which not only celebrated the TK school ethos, but also paid tribute to the robust heritage of the Katong area.