Principal’s Message

This newsletter celebrates our pupils’ learning, achievements and holistic development. The vibrancy of our school culture is evident in the photos of our pupils, teachers and parents in action. We could not have accomplished so much without the dedication of our staff, who go the extra mile to nurture our pupils and bring out the best in them. Truly, they exemplify the Teachers’ Vision of Lead, Care and Inspire. We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Parents Support Group, parents and many partners-in-education for their enthusiastic support.

This has been a wonderful year for the school, with a bumper crop of achievements and accolades for the school. But what is more important than these achievements are the i4C values that our pupils have demonstrated in the process. As you look back on 2013, I invite you to reflect on and celebrate the things that may not be so visible but which are more valuable and enduring than prizes and awards. I am referring to the little acts that build our pupils’ strength of character. Each day, as our pupils faithfully complete their homework, work on their projects, attend CCAs and prepare for competitions and exams, they learn the value of commitment, discipline and hard work. When our pupils persevere in the face of disappointments and difficulties, they learn to be more resilient. When they use their knowledge, skills and talents to serve one another, the school and community, they learn to be more gracious and live out our school motto Ars Potens Est (Knowledge is Power).

To the P6 pupils who will be leaving us soon, we wish you all the best in your future endeavours. We hope that the fond memories of your time here, the character lessons learnt and the friendships made in HGS will give you strength as you move on to secondary school. Do keep in touch and come back to serve the school. Once a Haig Girl, always a Haig Girl!
## LANGUAGE ARTS

### ENGLISH
- Babble and Speak Competition: 1st Prize; Merit Award
- Commonwealth Writing Competition: 1 Gold, 2 Silvers, 2 Bronzes
- East Zone Centre of Excellence English Storytelling Competition: Merit Award (Team)
- International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS): 3 High Distinctions; 27 Distinctions
- National Story Challenge: Champion (Team)
- Primary School Debate Open: Champion (Team); Best Speaker of the Finals
- S Rajaratnam Leadership Series – Storytelling Competition: 2nd and 4th Prize
- YMCA Plain English Speaking Awards: 1st Runner-Up; 1 Silver Honour Roll; 2 Bronze Honour Rolls

### CHINESE
- Heritage Hunters: Girls’ Champion; Grand Champion
- National Story Challenge: 1st Runner-Up (Individual)

### MALAY
- Malay National Storytelling Competition: Best School Award; 1st and 2nd Prize; 9 Golds, 1 Silver

### TAMIL
- E5 Cluster Tamil Language Competition (Singing): 2nd
- E5 Cluster Oratorical Competition: Best Speaker Award

## MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

### MATHEMATICS
- Hwa Chong Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools: 1 Bronze
- International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS): 5 High Distinctions; 20 Distinctions
- National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore: 2 Silvers; 1 Bronze; 1 Honourable Mention Certificate

### SCIENCE
- International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS): Sole Medal Winner; 2 High Distinctions; 13 Distinctions
- Tan Kah Kee Young Inventor’s Award: 1 shortlisted innovation

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

### ICT
- PUB Water Conservation Animation Competition: Champion (Group)

## PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

### VIOLIN
- East Zone Music Competition: 1st Position
- Kadenza Music Competition: 3rd Position (Intermediate)

### DANCE
- Classical Ballet- Inter Dance Competition – Group Category: Champion (Group)
- West Coast Dance Festival, Australia: Five 1st prizes, Four 2nd prizes and Four 3rd prizes

### VISUAL ARTS
- 7th Singapore National Junior Watercolour Competition 2013: Painting on the Spot: 3rd Prize; Commendation Award
- Aspirations 2013 – Singapore Teachers’ Art Society Annual Art Exhibition: Outstanding Work
- Heartland Beat Art Competition: Merit Award
- “Russia For Me”, Art Contest: 1st Prize
- Singapore Youth Festival Art Exhibition: 2 Certificates of Recognition (Category B and C)
- Young Illustrator Award: 1st Prize
- Youth for the Environment Day Art Competition: 3rd Prize (Group)
## Sports

### Bowling
- **12th National Inter-Primary Schools Tenpin Bowling Championship**
  - Junior: 3 Champions; Two 1st Runner-Ups; One 2nd Runner-Up; Team Event and Master High Game
  - Senior: 1st Runner-Up; Outstanding Sportsmanship

- **National Age Group Bowling Championship**
  - Champion; Two 1st Runner-Ups; 1st Runner-Up

- **PBC Youth Challenge Super Series**
  - Primary Schools Bowling League: 1st Runner-up (Team); 2nd Runner-up
  - Team Event: 3rd Position; 4th Position (Team)

- **Youth Challenge Super Series, 1st Series**
  - 4th Position (Overall)

- **Youth Challenge Super Series, 2nd Series**
  - 1st Runner-up

### Chess
- **National Schools Chess Championships**
  - 3rd Position

### Fencing
- **Z Gala Fencing Championships**
  - 1st and 2nd Positions

### Gymnastics
- **2nd Bangkok Gymnastics Invitational Competition**
  - Silver (Overall); 4 Bronzes

- **Crocodile 10th Singapore Open Gymnastics Championships**
  - Four 1st Placings

- **National Primary Schools Artistic Gymnastics Championship**
  - Two 2nd Placings

- **SACAC Springfest**
  - Champion (Overall)

- **Singapore Gymnastics National Championships**
  - One 3rd Placing and One 4th Placing

- **The Bangkok Gymnastics – Moose game Invitations Meet**
  - 1 Gold

### Sailing
- **International Optimist Dinghy European Championships**
  - 4th (Girls' division)

- **Bodrum International Regatta, Turkey**
  - 1st Position

- **HSS Downtown Race, Helsinki, Finland**
  - 2nd Position

- **Mana Mana Optimist Championships**
  - 1st Position

- **National Inter-Schools Sailing Championships**
  - 1st Position

- **National Youth Championship (Optimist Gold Fleet Category)**
  - 2nd, 3rd

### Swimming
- **44th Singapore National Age Group Swimming Championships**
  - Two 1st Positions; Two 3rd Positions; Two 4th Positions

- **54th National Primary School Swimming Championships**
  - 1st Position; Two 2nd Positions; One 4th Position

- **MGS Swimming Carnival**
  - 1st (Team)

- **United World College of South East Asia Swimming Championships**
  - 2nd and 3rd Placings

### Soccer
- **National Junior Football Competition**
  - 4th Position

### Squash
- **ACS Girls Squash Championships**
  - 3rd Position

### Taekwando
- **National Poomsae Championships**
  - Bronze; 4th Placing

### Track and Field
- **SAFRA National Sprint Kids**
  - 4th (Senior Girls Category)

### Uniformed Groups

#### RED CROSS
- Community Service Award: Silver
- Current Affairs Competition: 2nd Prize
- Excellent Units Award: Bronze; Director's Award

#### Brownies
- East Division Brownie Revel
  - Sandwich Making Competition: Silver Award
  - Flower Arrangement Competition: Silver Award
- East Division Competition
  - Recycled Craft Competition: 1st
  - Dessert Making Competition: 1st
- Puan Noor Aishah Honour Award: Silver
- Brownies - Puan Noor Aishah Honour Award
- Red Cross - Excellent Units Award
Integrated Project Work (IPW) @HGS

Our pupils were engaged in fun and meaningful field-based learning and value creation. Each project is designed to infuse character and citizenship education and develop 21st century competencies such as self-directed learning, collaboration, critical and creative thinking, and civic literacy in the learners.

Primary 3 to 6 projects involved pupils applying their knowledge and skills to solve authentic problems and address civic issues.

The Primary 5 and 6 pupils, for example, visited community organisations to study and research problems faced by the community. They then conceptualised innovative solutions to the problems and present their recommendations to their peers and representatives of community and government agencies. This year, we are honoured to present our Primary 5 projects to Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, the Mayor of the South East District of Singapore, and our Primary 6 projects to the Geylang Serai Constituency Office.
Character and Citizenship Education

National Education Core Events

Every year, we commemorate National Education (NE) Core Events which celebrate defining moments in Singapore’s history. Through a series of fun, interactive and meaningful activities, four NE core events - Total Defence Day, International Friendship Day, Racial Harmony Day and National Day - were commemorated. In addition to an assembly programme, games and interactive sessions were carried out during recesses by our dedicated Parent Support Group (PCG) Members and teachers. These activities help pupils to cultivate a sense of belonging and emotional rootedness to Singapore.

This year, we commemorated International Friendship Week in April with our friends from Dato Othman Primary School in Brunei.

Holistic Health

Our Primary 6 pupils promoting healthy living to their teachers and peers through a sandwich-making competition.

Global and Cross-Cultural Awareness Programme

This programme aims to nurture in our pupils a global perspective and a sense of rootedness to Singapore.

This year, our pupils went on two cultural immersion trips.

Cultural Immersion in Hong Kong

(11 to 15 September 2013)

The HGS Handbells Ensemble participated in a cultural immersion programme in Hong Kong. Four teachers, joined by 18 pupils and their instructor went for a fruitful cultural exchange at the SKH Tin Wan Chi Nam Primary School. They attended a 10-hour handbells workshop which allowed them to further hone their musical skills. The pupils from both schools also had the opportunity to watch performances by both schools and learn interact with one another. The trip culminated with a visit to HK Disneyland. Our pupils attended an animation workshop and enjoyed themselves tremendously at the park. This trip provided them with a rich experience and a new perspective as they appreciate the different ways of playing handbells in a different culture.

Art Learning Journey and Cultural Immersion Programme in Perth

(31 October to 4 November 2013)

Three of our Art teachers and 15 Primary 5 pupils embarked on a unique learning journey in Perth. They visited the Lance Holt School and had the opportunity to view exhibitions of the pupils’ artworks and share the art of paper-batik-making with them. It was a fruitful time of cultural exchange for the teachers and pupils from both countries. Our teachers and pupils also visited the Art Gallery of Western Australia and the Kidogo Art House where they had the opportunity to learn dot art painting from the aboriginal artists there. They came home with widened artistic horizons, a renewed passion for visual arts and a greater desire to explore unfamiliar techniques and styles.
ENGLISH

Language and Literacy Week

“...And your topic is ‘May the Odds be Ever in Your Favour’ from the ‘Hunger Games’!” In July, 50 pupils took up the challenge and delivered a one-minute impromptu speech based on quotes from various storybooks. They had to think on their feet and impress the audience with their wit and charisma. The competition, “Babble and Speak”, was one of the activities held in conjunction with the Library and Language Week which is organised annually by the English department and ICT/MRL Committee to foster a love for the English Language and cultivate the habit of reading among the pupils. Besides quizzes and book talks, pupils were also treated to story-telling sessions conducted by the librarians from the National Library Board. The highlight of the week was the Readers’ Theatre performed by the English teachers. The pupils were thrilled to see their usually no-nonsense teachers contorting their voices in an effort to portray the various characters in a humorous story.

Arts as Pedagogy: Teaching Mathematics through Drama

Our school has adopted an innovative curriculum which incorporates drama techniques in the teaching and learning of Mathematics. Implemented in collaboration with National Arts Council (NAC) and School of the Arts (SOTA) drama practitioner, this programme aims to stimulate pupils’ interest in Mathematics and develop their mathematical conceptual understanding and problem-solving skills. Through the use of story and drama activities, our Primary 3 and 4 pupils had an engaging time learning topics such as Multiplication, Division, Money, Fractions, Decimals, Time and Graphs. This programme will be extended to the Lower Primary classes come 2014. Primary 5 and 6 teachers will also be exploring the use of drama in their lessons.

Math Games @ Recess

With the help of our parent volunteers and student leaders, we engage pupils in fun maths games such as Logic, Fraction Dominoes, Ruma and innovative hands-on activities during recesses every Monday. Besides arousing pupils’ interest in Mathematics, Maths@Recess Games offer pupils opportunities to review Maths facts and information in a fun and meaningful way. The games also develop the pupils’ thinking skills and nurture their logical mathematical intelligence, further enhancing their confidence in problem-solving.

SCIENCE

D3T2

This is a school-based talent development programme that aims to expand the pupils’ knowledge of scientific concepts and skills and develop their critical and creative thinking skills. The photographs show our pupils engaged in planning investigations to test hypotheses in Science. This year, the school has also embarked on the E2K Science Programme Singapore, a Science enrichment programme specially developed by the Ministry of Education (Gifted Education Branch) for pupils who show interest and aptitude in the learning of Science.

Science Games @ Recess

This is a new initiative by the Science Department which takes place during recesses every Friday at the foyer. Pupils from all levels have fun exploring Science concepts through games. This programme aims to stimulate pupils’ interest in Science and develop their inquiry skills as they engage in exploratory learning. They learn to construct their understanding about Science concepts and connect Science to their everyday lives.

MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES

D3T2

This is a school-based talent development programme that aims to develop the pupils’ oral communication skills as they engage in different activities and participate in national competitions. We are runners-up for National Story Challenge 2013 and the Grand Champion for Heritage Hunters! (Gifted Education Branch) for pupils who show interest and aptitude in the learning of Science.

Mother Tongue (MT) fortnight 2013 – In February, April, July and August

This programme was introduced with the aim of infusing visual arts into the teaching and learning of MT teaching and learning. Our pupils’ interest in their MT languages is piqued as they learn various art forms through their participation in different activities. Pupils taking Chinese as their MT language participated in activities such as comic drawing, Chinese calligraphy and paper-cutting. Pupils taking Malay on the other hand learnt to make traditional paper costumes, kites and puppets (Wayang Kulit).

Our Primary 3, 4 and 5 Tamil pupils had a different experience. They participated in a camp held at MacPherson Primary School in April. The camp which was organised by the E5 Cluster schools was a treat for the pupils as they attended book talks, played interesting language games and engaged in cultural activities such as Kabbadi and Uri Adittal. The pupils were treated to a traditional vegetarian Tamil meal after attending a talk about traditional Indian vegetarian cuisines. In July, the pupils also took part in a Cultural camp organised by the E7 Cluster schools held at Bedok West Primary School. They were engaged in activities such as Indian Lamp painting, Thoranam Tying, Kabbadi and Uri Adittal.
Special Events in School

Teachers’ Day
Every year, HGS teachers are treated to a galore of performances presented by pupils. This year is certainly no exception! Despite the fact that the Primary 6 prefects were busy preparing for the PSLE, they choreographed a dance number, based on a series of songs that the teachers had used for the past Children’s Day dance items. The highlight of the celebration was the presentation of beautiful handmade cards to every teacher and staff of HGS on stage. We would like to thank our dedicated Parent Support Group (PSG), the generous School Advisory Committee as well as the Staff Well-being and Fun Committee, without whom, we would not have had such an enjoyable celebration.

Children’s Day
Every Children’s Day, the school compound is transformed into a magical wonderland for the pupils. All pupils enjoyed themselves thoroughly as they played to their hearts’ content. Excitement filled the air as pupils queued up patiently for their turns for food and games. We thank our PSG for taking time and effort to organise the fun-filled event amidst many other treats and activities planned by the Children’s Day Organising Committee!

TIMEOUT Think! Contemporary – Exhibition at SAM
On 3 October 2013, we held a joint exhibition at Singapore Art Museum (SAM) with Geylang Methodist Primary School and Mayflower Primary School which have adopted and adapted our TIMEOUT - Think! Contemporary programme, an award-winning interdisciplinary museum-based curriculum innovation. We were honoured to have the presence of Ms Jane Ittogi, Chair of SAM, who launched the exhibition. Our pupils were proud to present their artworks which were created in response to the social issues they had explored in the Primary 4 TIMEOUT - Think! Contemporary IPW programme. Their artworks were exhibited from 3 to 10 October 2013.

We also launched our first Think! Contemporary Resource Kit that comprises lesson plans and learning resources designed by our dedicated teachers. We hope the Resource Kit will be a source of inspiration for all teachers and pupils in Singapore who embark on this programme.

EZ Innovation In and Through the Arts Symposium
The East Zone Centre of Excellence for the Creative Arts@HGS organised the Innovation In and Through the Arts Symposium on 23 September 2013. Teachers from 33 schools and representatives from MOE HQ, AEB, NAC, NIE, SAM, STAR and SOTA attended the symposium. The Guest-of-Honour, Mrs Rebecca Chew, principal of STAR, delivered an insightful talk on how art is present everywhere in our daily life. The Keynote Speaker, Dr Scott Shuler, an Arts Education specialist in the Connecticut State Department of Education, reminded teachers how the arts can and should be integrated into the learning and teaching process. Seven schools, including HGS, shared their innovation in and through the arts.

Book Launch by Rachelle Toh, an Alumna of Haig Girls’ School
HGS Alumina Miss Rachelle Toh, who graduated in 2011 launched her first published book, a novel entitled ‘The Call for Allegiance – Quest’ on 12 November 2013. Six of our Primary 4 pupils had the opportunity to collaborate with her on the illustrations for the book. Rachelle hopes to make an impact on the creative writing culture in our school with this project and future collaborations. She hopes to inspire in her fellow Haig Girls a passion for writing and a desire to contribute to their alma mater. As the writer, Rachelle has pledged to donate a significant portion of the proceeds to the school’s Creative Arts Programmes Funds and the Cancer Science Institute of Singapore. We thank Rachelle for her contributions to her alma mater.
Developing Staff Professional Excellence

The culture of professional collaboration, research, learning and sharing that we have developed has resulted in school-based innovations and lesson study projects in a wide range of subjects and interdisciplinary areas.

By the end of 2013, our teachers would have conducted more than 10 professional sharing sessions at zonal, national and international platforms, thus making a positive impact on the education fraternity. These platforms include the MOE Excel Fest, APSMER-Arts Education Conference and National Project Work Seminar, EZ CCE Seminar 2013 and the launch of Think! Contemporary Resource Kit at the Singapore Art Museum. Our teachers are also engaged in active learning locally and overseas.

A warm welcome to the following staff who have joined us this year!

Teachers (From left to right): Ms Yeo Li Yen, Ms Alice Tay, Ms Tay Chuan and Mrs Fong Lay Keow

MOE Long Service Awards
Mr Appathurai Mahadevan, Mdm Chiong Sin Ee Cindy, Mdm Evelyn Teo, Miss Maryam Bee Binte Alla Pakshi, Mdm Norhasimah Binte Abdul Rahim, Miss Sannah Soo, Mdm Suriaya Bte Abdul Hameed and Mdm Teo Siok Hoon Candy

Promotions
Mdm Ang Chuay Yen, Mdm Anwara Khatun, Mrs Arlene Yang, Mrs Charlotte Mok, Mrs Eileen Low, Mrs Eng Yoke Lye, Ms Estee Tang Si-En, Mrs Esther Tan, Mdm Evelyn Teo Lian Peng, Ms Gidwani Poojalal, Mdm Hairunnisa Bte Amzad, Ms Khalisah Abdul Kader, Ms Leu Yifang, Mr Muhammad Bin Ismail, Mdm Norah Nordin, Ms Radiah Mohd Ali Jinnah and Mdm Tng Shoo Ling

Just Married!
Ms Khalisah and her husband, Mr Paul Ward
Mr Muhammad and his wife, Mdm Norwiyah and her husband, Mr Mohamed Shah Reza

National Day Award: Commendation Medal
Mr Bryan Ong Sze Chong, HOD English

Outstanding Youth in Education Award
Mrs Gina Cho is one of the 14 finalists

Academy Awards for Professional Development 2013 (Associate Award)/Associate of the Academy of Singapore Teachers Award
Miss Leu Yifang and Mrs Jess Low Xiang Ling

The Baby Boom!
Mrs Chia Yan Shan’s baby boy - Chia Zheng Xi
Mdm Nur Hazrilla Mohd Noor’s baby girl - Ayra Eiliyah Bte Mohd Rizzuan

MOE Innery Award
2011 P4 team receiving the Silver Award

2011 P2 team receiving the Bronze Award

Editorial Team: Mrs Constance Loke, Mdm Suriaya Bte Abdul Hameed, Mdm Junaidah Binte Abdul Hameed, Mdm Anwara Khatun Moklis Khan, Mrs Esther Tan, Mrs Mabel Yeo-Adriadi, Miss Nikki Yeo, Mrs Jess Low, Miss Syazwani Ashraff and Miss Nadia Lye
Special Thanks: All staff and pupils for their contribution in making this publication a success.