



HAIG GIRLS' SCHOOL

Established in 1951

Character · Leadership · Creativity

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Principal's message



Mrs Constance Loke

It seemed just a short while ago when we welcomed our pupils back to school at the beginning of this year. How time has flown indeed... 2012 has been a good year for us. We could not have accomplished so much without the dedication of our staff and the enthusiastic support of our partners-in-education.

This newsletter celebrates our pupils' achievements in a wide range of domains. It also captures a snapshot of the school events and programmes that have touched our hearts and stirred our imagination.

As we read this newsletter and look back on 2012, I invite our pupils to reflect on the extent to which they have grown in strength of character. I hope our pupils will ask the questions that matter. Instead of "How

many marks did I get for the exam?", ask "What did I learn and how can I improve?" Instead of "How many prizes did I win?", ask "Have I become a more gracious and caring person?", "Have I become more confident and resilient?", "Can I work better with my schoolmates?" and "Do I appreciate my friends' unique strengths and talents?" When we have done well, let us ask "Who are the people who have made a difference in our lives?" and "Who should we thank and appreciate?"

To the P6 pupils who will be leaving us soon, we wish you all the best in your future endeavours. We hope that the character lessons you have learnt and the friendships you have 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!

Ars Potens Est
Knowledge is Power

in service to others, the school and the community.



Editorial Team

Mrs Constance Loke, Mdm Suraiya Hameed, Mrs Esther Tan, Miss Nikki Yeo, Miss Nadia Lye, Ms Wang Jinyan, Miss Ngauw Cui Qin and Miss Khalisah Abdul Kader

Special Thanks: All staff and pupils for their contribution in making this publication a success



Language Arts

English	26 th YMCA Plain English Speaking Award Competition
	International Competitions and Assessments (ICAS) for Schools 2012
	Babble and Speak Competition
	Commonwealth Essay Competition 2012
	Arte (Factually) Speaking Contest (Writing Competition)
Chinese	6 th YMCA Mandarin Speaking Awards
	National Chinese Storytelling Competition
Malay	Creatif Syair Competitions
	Malay Creative Storytelling Competition
Tamil	E5 Cluster Tamil Competition

Mathematics & Science

National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore 2012
Amazing Math Race @Junyuan Secondary School
Annual Mathlympic for All Singapore Primary Schools 2012
Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools
Singapore Mathematics Project Festival 2012 (Primary Mathematics Project Competition)
ICAS Mathematics
ICAS Science

Performing and Visual Arts

SYF Central Judging	Chinese Dance
	Choir
	Gamelan
	Handbells
	Indian Dance
Festival of Songs, Olomouc, Czech Republic (Children's Choir Category)	International Dance
Dance	The DSTD Singapore Dance Competition
Visual Arts	Saving The World Art Competition

Sports

Biathlon	7 th Biathlon for Kids – SIA Games Festival 2012
Bowling	11 th National Inter-Primary Schools Tenpin Bowling Championship 2012
	PBC Youth Challenge Super Series - 1 st Series
	National Age Group Championship
Gymnastics	SACAC Gymnastics Spring Fling
	The Bangkok Gymnastics Moose Game Invitational Meet
Sailing	7 SAFYC Optimist Championship - Gold Fleet Group
Swimming	43rd Singapore National Age Group Swimming Championships
	53 rd National Primary School Swimming Championships 2012
Taekwondo	Singapore Taekwondo Poomsae Championship

Uniformed Groups

Red Cross	Community Service Award
	Excellent Units Award
Brownies	Puan Noor Aishah Honour Award

1st and Silver Honour Roll
(Upper Primary Category)

English
1 Commendation Medal
7 High Distinctions, 31 Distinctions
Writing
2 High Distinctions, 3 Distinctions
2nd Prize

Junior: 1 Silver, 1 Bronze
Upper Primary: 3rd Prize

Two Best Speaker Awards

1 Silver, 1 Bronze

3rd Prize

Best School Award

Overall Champion

Two 3rd Prizes

2 Silver & 2 Bronzes;
3 Honourable Mention Awards

2 Golds, 2 Silvers, 8 Bronzes

2 Bronzes

1 Bronze

Commendation Award

3 High Distinctions, 20 Distinctions

1 High Distinctions, 14 Distinctions

Gold

Silver

Silver

Silver

Bronze

Silver

Silver

Two 1st Prizes (Solo) and an
Honorary Mention Medal

3rd Runner-up

Junior: 2nd and 3rd Prize

Junior Girls:
Overall: 1st Runner-up
Singles (Champion); Masters (Champion &
2nd Runner-up); Team (Champion)
Senior Girls:
Masters (2nd Runner-up)

Champion

1st Prize, 2nd Prize and Two 3rd Prizes

3rd Prize

1st Prize

3rd Prize

Bronze

1 Gold, 1 Bronze and 4th Position

2nd Place (Silver)

Silver

Gold

Silver



Integrated Project Work (IPW) @HGS

Our pupils were engaged in fun and meaningful field-based learning and value creation. P3-6 projects involved pupils in applying their knowledge and skills to solve authentic problems and address civic issues. IPW@HGS is designed to infuse character and citizenship education and the development of 21st century competencies such as self-directed learning, collaboration, critical and creative thinking and civic literacy.



P5: Science Innovation Project - an insulation bag



P6: Interviewing the stall-holders at Geylang Serai Wet Market



P4: Interdisciplinary Museum - based Learning



P3: Learning more about the culture and heritage of Joo Chiat

Level	Description	Approach	Value Creation
P6	USE! Wet Markets Geylang Serai	Interdisciplinary Problem-based, Place-based Learning (Geylang Serai Wet Market)	Research and advocacy: creative solutions to preserve wet markets
P5	Science Innofair - Everyday Science! (Science in our Daily Lives)	Interdisciplinary Problem-based Learning	Innovative products that solve everyday problems
P4	The Inspired Museum Explorers, Our Unique Travels (TIMEOUT) - Think! Contemporary	Interdisciplinary Place-based Learning [Storyline Method] (Singapore Art Museum)	Creative writing and contemporary art installations that address the following issues: immigration and identity, heritage, nationhood and globalisation
P3	ACT! Joo Chiat	Interdisciplinary Place-based Learning (Joo Chiat neighbourhood)	Research and advocacy: design of brochures to promote the heritage and culture of Joo Chiat
P2	Walking through the Butterfly Lodge	Interdisciplinary Place-based Learning (Butterfly Lodge)	Creative story writing
P1	Walking through the Jungle	Interdisciplinary Place-based Learning (Singapore Zoological Gardens)	Dramatisation of a story using self-made props and costumes.

Playing fine stones can be really easy and fun!



I am your trishaw rider for the day!



National Education Core Events

Every year, we commemorate National Education (NE) Core Events, a celebration of defining moments in Singapore's history. Through a series of fun, interactive and meaningful activities, 4 NE core events - Total Defence Day, International Friendship Day, Racial Harmony Day and National Day - were each commemorated for a week in school. In addition to an assembly programme, games and interactive sessions were carried out during recess by our dedicated Parent Support Group Members and teachers. These activities help pupils to cultivate a sense of belonging and emotional rootedness to Singapore.

*There's no knot too tight for the PSG!
You will be beautifully dressed up in no time!*



Global and Cross-Cultural Awareness Programme

This program aims to nurture in our pupils a global perspective and a sense of rootedness to Singapore. This year, our pupils went on an overseas service learning trip and two cultural immersion trips.

Overseas Service Learning Journey in Cambodia (9 to 13 March 2012)

4 teachers and 30 Primary 5 pupils had a fruitful time engaged in enriched learning and leadership service at Cambodia.

The learning acquired from visits to schools and places of cultural and historical interest was

enhanced through their service learning experiences. Many were humbled by their experiences at the villages and the schools in which they conducted storytelling sessions, English and craft lessons. The local pupils' contentment in spite of their living and learning conditions was what impacted our pupils most. They came home with a greater appreciation of what they have in Singapore and a greater desire to serve their community.



Cultural Immersion in Olomouc (5 to 13 June 2012)

The HGS Choral group participated in the International Festival of Choirs (Festival of Songs) at Olomouc in the Czech Republic. Our pupils took part in an international choral competition and festival performances, and had the opportunity to enjoy performances by choirs from other countries. This experience provided our pupils with not only a global outlook and exposure to performing arts at the international level, but also the opportunity to learn about the history and culture of Vienna.



Cultural Immersion in Brunei (19 to 22 June 2012)

3 teachers and 15 pupils joined 4 teachers and 19 pupils from Macpherson Primary School and Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School (Primary) on this trip to Brunei. They visited Kiarong Primary School, Dato Basir Primary School and an orphanage. They had a fruitful time immersing themselves in this cultural exchange. They returned home with new knowledge about the Malay culture and language. What completed the cultural exchange experience was the subsequent visit made by the choir of Kiarong Primary School to our school in July this year.



Key Learning Programmes/Activities

English

Library Week [30 July to 3 August]

During Library Week, our pupils enjoyed various stories retold in

Chinese, Malay and Tamil by teachers and parent volunteers. They also had a treat

with an English storytelling session by Mr Roger Jenkins, one of Singapore's most



popular storytellers. In conjunction with these activities, poetry recitation, costume parade and storytelling competitions were also held.



Using Drama in the teaching and learning of English

Using Drama in the teaching and learning of English

Drama was one of the innovative techniques which our teachers used in the teaching of Composition & Comprehension after attending training on the use of Drama in English.



Character & Citizenship Education and English

SurfNews@HGS (A collaborative effort by two departments)

A news portal aiming to stimulate pupils' interest in current affairs was set up in July 2012. SurfNews@HGS provides an online platform for our pupils to reflect on current news and share their thoughts and ideas. Our dream - every Haig Girl an avid news reader and a concerned citizen.

Mathematics

Using Drama in the teaching of Mathematics

This Arts as Pedagogy pilot programme, implemented in collaboration with the National Arts Council, uses drama techniques to stimulate our pupils' interest in

Mathematics, deepen their conceptual understanding and develop their problem-solving skills. Through drama techniques such as role playing and the Buzz activity, our P3 pupils had an engaging time learning topics such as Multiplication, Money, Fractions and Bar graphs.



Math Games Day(P5) [29 August 2012]

Taking the girls' interest in Mathematics a step further, P5 pupils applied their Mathematical knowledge in the designing of a Math game. The games were so well-designed that it was difficult to differentiate them from commercially developed games. The pupils also got to hone their problem solving and visual thinking skills as they challenged their peers in IQ logic, Chess, Sudoku, Rubik's cube and more!



Science

Science Busking for Primary 3 Pupils

This Science performance task engaged our pupils in applying Science concepts to build a boat that could float. Excited and inspired, the girls demonstrated creativity in the boats that they had made. They also developed their abilities to



think critically and apply their process skills and Science knowledge.

Mother Tongue Languages

For MT fortnight: (30 Jul – 14 Aug)

Students were introduced to opera mask painting, Chinese paper cutting, Chinese Knots, Rangoli etc. A 1.5 hour cultural camp was also held to provide the P4s with the opportunity to learn more about the Chinese, Malay and Indian cultures. It was an enriching experience for the pupils.



Celebration of Festival

The Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration (24 September 2012)



Hari Raya Puasa Celebration (30 August 2012)



Deepavali Celebration (13 November 2012)



Special Events in School

Teachers' Day

Each year, the pupils of HGS never fail to surprise their teachers with exciting performances and special gifts. This year, on 31 August 2012, the children outdid themselves in a series of creative performances - skit performances, dance and a video depicting their teachers in the most heartwarming and hilarious manner. And of course, the highlight was always the presentation of beautiful handmade cards to every teacher on the stage. We would like to say a big Thank You to our dear Parent Support Group (PSG), School Advisory Committee and Staff Well-Being and Fun Committee, without whom, we would not have had such an enjoyable day.

Check out our delighted teachers, enjoying their Teacher's Day lunch



Look at the goodie bag that each teacher received!



Minister's Visit

11 October 2012 was just like any other ordinary school day, except we had a special guest in school – our Education Minister, Mr Heng Swee Keat. During his visit, he interacted with the Young Inventors of the P5 Innovation Fair, the pupil artists and writers of the P4 Timeout programme and watched how the P5 pupils learnt English through drama. He also had two fruitful dialogue sessions with teachers and pupils. It was indeed a very refreshing experience for both the teachers and pupils involved in the interaction with the Minister as they got to voice their ideas on the education system.



Children's Day

On 4 October 2012, the school seemed to have transformed into a mini-wonderland for the girls. The girls enjoyed a wonderful carnival during their extended recesses. We certainly have the PSG to thank for the scrumptious popcorn, candy floss, balloons and bouncing castle amidst many other wonderful activities planned by the Children's Day Committee!



Of course, we also have the teachers to thank for putting so much effort into preparing their creative and enlightening concert items!



HGS' Oppa Gangnam Style!

Launch of a Centre of Excellence

On 23 July 2012, we were honoured to have Ms Low Khah Gek, Deputy Director-General of Education cum Director of Schools, as the Guest-of-Honour at the launch of the East Zone Centre of Excellence for the Creative Arts@Haig Girls' School. An Arts Education Symposium cum Exhibition was held in HGS, in conjunction with the launch. Our guests enjoyed a tour of the HGS Art Gallery and our Handbells Ensemble and Dance Ensemble impressed the guests with their musicality and dance skills respectively.



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 inter-disciplinary areas. By the end of 2012, our teachers would have conducted more than 10 professional sharing sessions at national and international platforms, making a positive impact on the education fraternity. These platforms include the International Conference on Teaching & Learning with Technology, MOE ExCEL Fest, Teachers Conference and World Association of Lesson Studies Conference.

Our teachers also engaged in active learning in many ways as shown in the photographs.



Mrs Constance Loke, Mdm Anwara and Mrs Jess Low having a fruitful time on a STAR study trip to New York and Baltimore, USA (29 February to 9 March)



Mdm Suraiya and Mrs Grace Chia visiting schools and attending a conference at Atlanta, USA (22 to 28 October)



Professional Sharing Day in December 2011



Mrs Celeste Lim and Mrs Gina Cho each receiving a certificate of appreciation from MOE for their contribution to teaching and learning.



Staff News

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



Teachers (From left to right):
 Mr Kwok Yao Tsuan, Miss Ang Yan Qing Clara, Miss Zhang Ying, Mdm Zuraidah Binte Abdul Karim, Miss Norwiyah Binte Balkiah, Mr Mohamed Ansar Bin Kamsan, Miss Yeo Yu Nian Nikki, Miss Sylvia Wang Yong Ling, Miss Tang Si-En Estee, Miss Chen Hsiang Yin, Miss Mainura Binte Mawi, Mdm Norhasimah Bte Abdul Rahim (Absent) Miss Rasyidah Bte Mohd Idrus Zamzam & Mdm Nur Aisha Bte Abdul Ghafar
Allied Educators:
 Miss Chee Fei Wan (Counselling), Mrs Sikkander Shakila (Teaching & Learning)
IT Assistant:
 Ong Yi Xi



At the same time, it is with a heavy heart that we bid the following teachers goodbye:

Miss Julee Noordin & Mdm Azizah Bte Jaon (continuing their service in other schools)
 Mdm Lim Kim Eng (Retired on 2nd November 2012)

Just Married!
 Mr and Mrs Toh, blissfully married!



The Baby Boom!



Mdm Loh Chu Imm's baby boy, Mok Jun Yong



Mdm Sri's baby boy, Muhd Aydin Aushaf



Ms Angeline Guay's baby girl, Allyson Poh

MOE Long Service Awards

Miss Ang Chuay Yen, Mdm Chan Lai Choo, Mdm Harjinder Kaur, Mr Lee Sek Kiong Michael, Mdm Samsiah Bte Mohamed Amin, Mrs Subramaniam Prema

Promotions

Mrs Constance Loke, Mrs Charlotte Mok, Mrs Christina Hing, Mrs Eileen Low, Mrs Esther Tan, Miss Gidwani Poojalal, Mrs Gina Cho, Mrs Grace Chia, Mrs Jess Low, Miss Julee Noordin, Mrs Mabel Adriadi, Miss Ngauw Cui Qin, Mdm Tan Khalidah Hani, Mdm Tng Shoo Ling

National Day Award: Commendation Medal



Mdm Suraiya Hameed, Vice Principal

President's Award for Teachers



Mdm Anwara Khatun Moklis Khan

MOE Service Excellence Award



Mrs Ada Goh, Allied Educator (Learning and Behavioural Support)