

INVICTUS CONNECT

MARCH 2023



Greetings everyone!

The term has just ended and all students and staff are happily off to enjoy their well-deserved break! This issue of *Invictus Connect* will continue to update parents of major events and activities that Invictus Horizon Hills (IHH) has engendered in March.

One can never over-emphasise the tremendous benefits reading brings about. We are fully immersed in new adventures and perspectives when books become part of our lives. The school celebrated Book Week with many fun-filled activities. Both staff and students went all way out to festoon their class doors and walls with decorations of their favourite book characters. It is so gratifying to see reading is still alive and important in our students' lives! Together with this, we also fruitfully carried out a Poetry Week that was very well received!

The school conducted a lockdown drill after weeks of careful planning. Lockdown Drill is a specific safety drill to prepare students and staff to achieve maximum safety in the event of an internal threat such as intruder in the school building. IHH students and staff knew exactly what to do and were cognisant of all the necessary procedures in case of emergency of this nature.

IHH is also very thrilled to welcome our first set of Parent Support Group (PSG) members. Of course, the first step in setting up the PSG involves being clear about the role of a PSG, its structure, the ways a PSG can contribute to the school, and figuring out when to start planning and running PSG events. We did exactly that when parent volunteers came forward to join the PSG and lend their support and expertise. We will capitalise on the momentum created and further develop a comprehensive plan of how the school can work hand in hand with the PSG to add value to our Invictors!

Further, our students have gone through several summative and formative assessments commendably. This would not have been possible without both the teachers' and parents' consistent guidance and support. The parents were invited to confer with the teachers during the Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC). Students' overall progress and areas for development were discussed at great lengths. I am truly grateful to see parents' enthusiastic involvement.

Lastly, on behalf of all staff here in IHH, we wish everyone a Happy Easter Break. We will be as usual eager to receive our students back in school on 17 April 2023 (Monday)!

With regards,
A Mannan
Principal (Invictus Horizon Hills)

BOOK WEEK & WORLD BOOK DAY

From the 27 Feb to the 3 Mar 2023, Invictus Horizon Hills (IHH) celebrated Book Week, including World Book Day on Thursday 2 Mar. Children across the school took part in various activities throughout the week such as **Story Soundtrack, Door-Decorating Competition, Take-10 Challenge, Book Speed Dating, Book Characters Dressed-Up Competition, Book Cover Making Activity and Bookmark Colouring Activity.**

It was amazing to see some incredibly creative work being produced in every class, reflecting our students' love of reading!

The theme for Book Week is **Read, Grow, Inspire**. The objective is to promote and inspire reading for pleasure and to appreciate reading as a time of enjoyment, relaxation and intellectual pleasure.

Congratulations to the winners for Door-Decorating Competition and Book Characters Dressed-Up Competition!

The Winners

Door-Decorating Competition

Category :
Early Years - Year 2



YEAR 2

Category :
Year 3 - Year 6



YEAR 5

Category :
Year 7 - Year 12



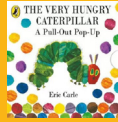
YEAR 12

Book Characters Dress-Up Competition

Category : Early Years



Nicholas Lawrence (EY2)
-The Very Hungry Caterpillar



Wong Xi Yuan (EY1)
-The Little Mermaid & Other Fairy Tales



Category : Primary



Li Ziqian (Daniel) (Year 2)
-Alice in Wonderland



Mahaneeya Vainavi (Year 3)
-Demon Dentist



Category : Secondary



Cheryl LEE Chiar Yun (Year 8)
-Jurassic Park



Sophia Annabel Toh (Year 12)
-Little Red Riding Hood



Category : Staff & Academic



Ms Jade Chang Ai Yoek (Ops Staff)
-Antony and Cleopatra



Ms Khaireen Erdyana (Ops Staff)
-The Book of Life



Creativity Beyond Imagination

Students' potential can be expressed in many different ways and when we are able to showcase these talents, we become aware of something quite special!

YEAR 6

Book Week is one of those opportunities where students can embrace new learning, challenges, and concepts. The themed door-decorating competition was a single event that allowed our Year 6 students to explore, research and develop a keen sense of teamwork. The door decoration had to be visually stimulating with attractive 3D models and show a deeper understanding of the book they had chosen to depict.

The Beginning

The early stages of this journey took the form of a discussion group where we engaged in dialogue and debate. This finally led to our chosen topic, "Ancient Egypt."

Cross- Curricular (Math & Art)

Mathematics took a major role in the next stage of the planning. Designing 3D images required a great deal of thought about measurements, 'How big is the door?' 'How big should we create each model?' etc. Adjustments were required but it all fell into place. We were ready for the, 'How?' and 'What?' stage!

How?

The 'How?' was about creating an interesting, eye-catching, and most importantly for the students' an innovative design. Students wanted to move away from the 'cut and paste' scenario and experience the challenge of using materials that inspired further exploration.

We now had the ideas but we needed evidence. How could we properly portray an ancient civilization? My class had the answer, 'research'. They studiously and diligently looked for information that would lead them to next steps.

DK EYEWITNESS

ANCIENT EGYPT

Explore Egypt's amazing history – from colossal temples to tombs packed with riches



Research

We found a great book in our Library, with all the details about Ancient Egypt. The book featured around 29 ancient Egyptian models, and we decided to create all of them. Here are some:

- Tutankhamun (the ruler of Egypt)
- Empty Vessels (Egyptian cups or jars)
- Dahabeya (large sailing boats) and the standard emblem
- The great Pyramids
- Nefertiti (the ruler's wife who built a new capital city at Amarna)
- Labels (rocks used to label papyrus documents) Egyptian wall art.

Each student was assigned two to three models to complete.

The Innovative Egyptians

In addition to the canvas, students' paintings now represented the life of the Ancient Egyptians. While much of the world was living in primitive conditions, the Ancient Egyptians were inventing writing and advancing the sciences of mathematics, medicine and astronomy. They developed ways to measure time and distances, and applied their knowledge to monumental architecture.

Collaborations and Ownership of Learning

Year 6 took full charge of the task in hand. Working independently, persevering when things didn't go according to plan. Many attempts were made until they were satisfied it was their best work; sometimes working non-stop during their lunch-break in order to keep working on their project.

Knowledge Wall and Life long Learning

Once our door was complete, we checked in with our understanding of what have we learned about the Ancient Egyptians. This was initiated through research and debate.

Inspired

As a teacher and an advocate of teaching through doing, this incredible journey was not only inspiring for me to observe as they tackled each junction with fortitude and met adversity with new thinking. It was a reflective time for myself and the students. They were given a challenge and without losing step they worked together, inspired each other, encouraged when things were not going so well. It was a journey that I will not forget and leads us to the next chapter.

Our story continues and we hope to share those with you as we traverse the world looking for new adventures!



Front Door



Back Door

YEAR 1

Behind the scenes:

'Stories from all over the world'

The parents of the Year 1 students joined us to celebrate the book day. We celebrated our diversity by listening to stories from all over the world. They read books in Chinese, Tamil, Mongolian and English.

After our reading, we worked together on our door decoration. Everybody chose their favourite stories and characters and, with the parents' help, we painted and drew to have a wonderful book-cover-door.

Finally, after such hard work, we had an indoor picnic and had lots of fun together.



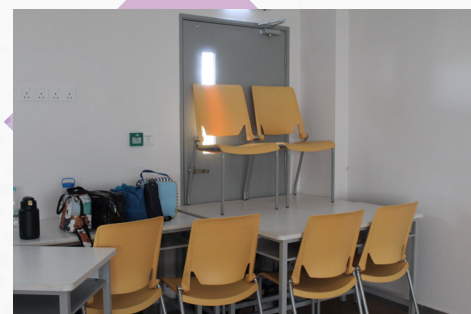
LOCKDOWN DRILL

Lockdown drills are a specific safety drill to prepare students and staff to achieve maximum safety in the event of an internal threat such as intruder or active shooter in the school building or on campus, or external threat, including community violence or disaster.

What To Do:

Upon hearing the code from the PA system, all staff and students would hide in a nearby room out of sight of the intruder until help arrives. Traditional lockdown drills educate staff and students about what to do to remain safe in a classroom or other part of the school in the event of a lockdown. This typically involves locking the door, moving students to a location out of sight through windows or upon entrance to the room, and coaching students to remain calm and quiet for the duration of the drill. The lockdown drills also teach students life-saving actions for maximizing safety, including leave the scene (run), hide, lockdown and barricade in place.

At the end of the drill, all students head for Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH) once they hear the ALL CLEAR announcement from the authority in charge where a head count takes place.



OPEN DAY

18 MAR 2023

We enjoyed a joyously overwhelming turnout of prospective parents for our first official Open Day at our fantastic new school!

Early birds joined us from 9.30am, with the last happy family leaving later than 5pm. We were delighted to welcome so many interested parents and children, all eager to learn about education the Invictus way.

Visitors were treated to an informative welcome address by our Principal, Mr Mannan, who extolled the virtues of learning through the Cambridge International Curriculum in our purpose-built facility.

The young people enjoyed a variety of activities, from fun and games in our air-conditioned Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH) to soldering electronics in our state-of-the-art Fablab maker space.

School tours continued throughout the day, hosted by our world-class teaching staff and excellent Operations team. Each session was rounded off with the opportunity to have an in-depth, personalised consultation with one of our curriculum leaders.

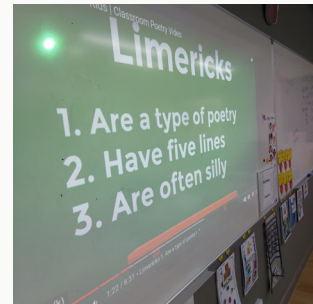
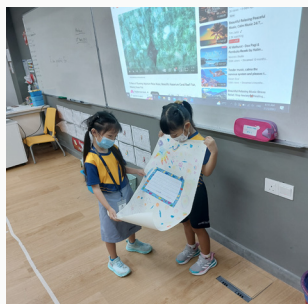
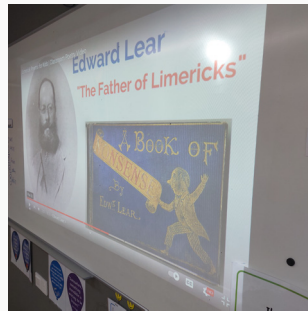
All in all, it was a highly successful and thoroughly enjoyable day for everyone!



During World Poetry Week, **Year 2** students started by learning the meaning of some key words through visual supports: What is a poem? What is poetry? and who is a poet? They also learned that there are over 50 types of poetry out there!

Then they discovered rhymes through reading some famous poems and had fun composing their own rhyming words!

Finally, the children learned about Edward Lear, the father of limericks, discovered how to write limericks and composed their own short poems! Proud of their work, the children shared their poems with other primary classes!



Year 1: Poetry Reading (Drama Class)

What does poetry mean?

We dive into the world of poetry playing with the monkey that eats bananas and nuts for a quick and healthy snack and with the giant elephant that, although it has big feet and fluffy ears, is kind and nothing to fear.



STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

EARLY YEARS

Over the past few weeks, the EY2 class have been busy with many activities.

In Music, we had a chance to start using the Music Studio and Mr. Gian brought in his guitar to play songs with the children.

In Understanding the World, we made chocolate chip pancakes since we were talking about technology in the kitchen. The children really enjoyed making these!

For Mat, we had a group lesson on tall and short.

We brought our Art lesson outside and made ladybugs as a group. We also made butterflies and fish in the class using a variety of materials to help design them.

Our week always ends with a fun-packed Friday at the Horizon Hills Golf & Country Club (HHGCC) with swimming and other popular activities.

Thank you, parents, for all your support!



PRIMARY



PRIMARY: Year 5

Subject: Science

Topic: Digestion system

Digestion is the food you eat that must be broken into simpler substances before your body can use it. The children made an experiment to see how digestion happens in our body.

SECONDARY

Year 8 class took part in a cross-curriculum study of Witch Trials. In History Class they have been studying the prevalence of witchcraft accusations and trials that occurred in the 17th Century as well as examining the factors and conditions that have resulted in instances of scapegoating throughout history and into modern times.

In Drama they had delved into the analysis of the dramatic structure by reading an adapted play based on the famous Salem witch trials of the 1690's. We had used the theme of this play as a stimulus to create our own production where students will become playwrights, actors and story designers.

Students each played a character in the school including the teacher and principal, and had to improvise how their character would react to the pressures of the situation. Although it turned out none of the students were guilty of the crime, they learned a valuable lesson about hysteria and the dangers of gossip and false accusations.



A-LEVELS

During Mr Lee's Physics lesson with Year 12 students, we investigated density, in relation to our syllabus and current chapter. A beneficial practical session was conducted to prove and have us witness that the density of pure water was 1 g/cm^3 , as well as having calculated, compared, and concluded the density of cooking oil to be higher. Mr Lee went through the practiced step by step to ensure that the students fully grasped the concepts taught. Paying attention to accuracy and precision, the class successfully carried out the practical.





PARENT SUPPORT GROUP (PSG)

"Education is the most powerful weapon, which we can use to change the world."
-Nelson Mandela

A New Chapter

We are delighted to announce a new chapter in the growth of Invictus Horizon Hills (IHH) with a Parent Support Group (PSG). It began with an invitation to all parents, and the response was phenomenal. Over 60 of you attended our first Parent Student Group meeting. The pace was fast and exciting as we learned new things, including the purpose of a PSG in schools and an understanding of why parents are invaluable to the success of a school.

- **To help parents and the school empower each other through education & support.**
- **Parents' perceptions of the school are improved and there are stronger ties and commitment to the school.**
- **Consistent parent involvement leads to improved communication and relations between parents, teachers, and administrators.**

The Committee

Soon after this initial meeting we received a fabulous amount of interest and nominations for specific roles within the group and can proudly announce the outcomes of that.

Our newly formed team will be headed with a strong sense of collaboration and vision with **Jaya Ganesh** as the President along with **Denise Teoh** as Vice President and Treasurer, **Muhammed Sadiq Bin Mohammed Siraj**. We look forward to seeing our parents in school, bringing a new level of enjoyment to the learning journey with 'Happiness & Wellbeing', forming a central part in this partnership.

The Future

There is much to look forward to, with fundraising activities such as Quiz Night; Bake-Off challenge & Cake Sale; Coffee Mornings; Walk & Talk (to raise awareness in mental health); Book Club; Parents Sports Day and Workshops.

"Our Strength"

*It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll.
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.*

-Extract from 'Invictus' by William Ernest Henley

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP (PSG)



CONGRATULATIONS !



Kiyo Nai Yow Jia

Won First Prize in Piano Open Solo Category A (Children): 4-6 Year Old, Physical Format in 2023 Music Singapore International Piano & Violin Competition

Gregory GUI Ming You

Won a Gold Award in Grade 2 Piano Division: Solo Category For Eurasia Youth Music Festival

STAFF BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Happy Birthday to our Jan – Mar Babies!

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

Events	Date
Easter Term Break	3-14 Apr
Acad & Adventure Camp (AAC)	3-6 & 10-13 Apr
INSET Day	14 Apr
Start of Term 3	17 Apr
Hari Raya Aidilfitri	21-24 Apr
Fire Drill (Final)	26 Apr
Earth Day & Hari Raya Celebration	28 Apr