



## Principal's Message

I am truly honoured and grateful to be given this opportunity to join the CHIJ St. Joseph's Convent (SJC) family as Principal. It is indeed my privilege to be working with a school community that is strongly committed to the holistic education of our girls and rooted in the Catholic Ethos. I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for the contributions made by past principals and for their inspirational leadership in setting a strong foundation for the school.

It has always been my dream to serve as an educator in a Catholic school. As a student, I spent 6 years in CHIJ Opera Estate and 4 years in CHIJ Katong Convent. I am most grateful for those 10 years of IJ education which I enjoyed because they shaped me into who I am today. I went on to complete my GCE A-Level examination at Catholic Junior College which fortified the values that I uphold dearly. Subsequently, after graduating from NUS and NIE in 1997, I started my teaching career in Changkat Changi Secondary School (CCSS) as a Chemistry and Biology teacher. In my 18 years at CCSS, I was given the opportunity to be HOD/Discipline, HOD/Science and Vice-Principal. In December 2015, I was appointed as Principal of Bedok View Secondary School and served the school for the next 5 years before my current posting to SJC.

In my short time here, it is clear to me what a special place SJC is. There have been many uplifting moments this semester and I would like to share 3 of them with you. First, in my initial weeks in school, it was very heartwarming to have students come up to me, and ask how I was doing, demonstrating care and consideration. I enjoy having conversations with all of you, so please continue to come up and chat with me whenever you can.

Second, I am thankful for the student who has been faithfully co-leading the recitation of the Rosary in the Chapel with me, and for the girls who make the effort to be present and start the day with God. Faith is close to my heart; I hope that during your time at SJC, you will not only grow intellectually and emotionally but also spiritually. Be the light to those around you, especially the disadvantaged.



Third, I am comforted by the caring staff who have been very friendly and gone the extra mile to put every girl's interest at heart. I am blessed, indeed, to have such a wonderful team. Thank you for making me feel welcomed and part of the SJC family.

In the coming days and months, I look forward to growing and working together with all staff, students, parents, stakeholders and the community to co-create the future for St. Joseph's Convent.

"Whatever happens, be at peace and trust in God." – Blessed Nicolas Barre

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Valerie Pinto**



# NEW STAFF

This year, we welcome the following new staff to the CHIJ SJC family:

## School Leaders



**Mrs Valerie Pinto**  
Principal



**Ms Ho Wei Ling**  
Vice-Principal

## Teaching Staff



**Mrs Ang Tze Hwei**  
Subject Head: Science - Chemistry



**Miss Afroza Begum Binte Kamal**  
History and English



**Miss Chan Lian Yin**  
Mother Tongue – Chinese



**Mdm Jasmine Law-Spain**  
Geography and Social Studies



**Mr Tan Kuan Ting**  
Biology and Geography



**Ms Nurul 'Ain Sakina Binte Soonaan**  
Social Studies and Geography



**Mr Dino Soh Yi Hao**  
Chemistry and Physics



**Miss Nur Farizan Binte Abubakar**  
Geography and English



**Miss Rachel Ang**  
English and Social Studies



**Mr Samuel Tan Shen Yong**  
Mathematics and Chemistry

## Support Staff



**Ms Stephanie Ann Kessler**  
Senior School Counsellor



**Miss Koh Suat Hoon**  
ICT Manager 2

## Congratulations to mummies for their new-borns



**Mrs Rachel Tan**

baby girl in October 2020



**Mrs Joanna Goh**

baby boy in December 2020



**Mrs Jolly Tan**

baby girl in January 2021

**We thank the following staff for their contributions to SJC and wish them all the best in their future endeavours:**

- Ms Pauline Fun (Ex-Principal)
- Mrs Michelle Willman (Ex-Vice-Principal)
- Ms Faith Chew Hui Leng
- Mrs Stella Tan
- Mrs Wong Yu Qing
- Ms Lim Ke Xin
- Mrs Lau Hay Pin
- Ms Peony Koh
- Miss Serene Wong
- Ms Mary Charles
- Mrs Sarah Sharmini



## RESULTS OF 2020

### GCE N-LEVEL EXAMINATION

**92.2% of our girls qualified for progression to Secondary 5NA**

The following subjects achieved 40% or more distinctions

SUBJECT	% DISTINCTIONS
English Language	46.8
Literature	42.9
Science (Chemistry/Biology)	48.4
Mathematics	44.2
Additional Mathematics	50.0

### GCE O-LEVEL EXAMINATION

The following subjects achieved 40% or more distinctions

SUBJECT	% DISTINCTIONS
English Language	43.2%
Mathematics	53.1 %
Additional Mathematics	63.6%
Biology	85.7%
Chemistry	65.2%
Physics	40.0%
Science (Physics/Chemistry)	57.4%
Science (Chemistry/Biology)	61.5%
Malay Language	55.6%
Tamil Language	66.7%
Higher Chinese Language	76.5%

### Historical Investigation (HI) By Humanities Department

As part of the HI process for our Secondary Two students, a field trip to Fort Siloso (Sentosa) was planned from 27 January to 5 February 2021. The visit to Fort Siloso provided the platform for our students to investigate different aspects of Singapore's history. It also gave students the opportunity to appreciate real-world application of historical knowledge and skills and helped them acquire 21st century competencies.

During the visit, the students explored a range of sources and drew conclusions about Singapore's past from what they gathered. They explored five exhibitions and carried out an investigation on the impact of the Japanese Occupation on the lives of different groups of people living in Singapore.

The trip was a memorable and enjoyable opportunity for our students to experience History in an authentic setting.

- Mrs Veronica Tjan



### Total Defence Day

This year's Total Defence Day (TDD) theme, "Together We Keep Singapore Strong" encourages students to play a greater role in Total Defence by showing them how they can contribute in both big and small ways.



SJC commemorated TDD with a CCE lesson and an assembly programme, where our students reflected on how Total Defence remains our best all-round response to possible threats and challenges that confront Singapore (e.g. terrorism, pandemics, cyber-attacks, influence campaigns, economic crises). The global pandemic, COVID-19, reminded us of the relevance of Total Defence and that it is ever-important for all Singaporeans to play their part as we rebuild our lives around the new norms.

This year's virtual assembly programme also featured a skit titled, "SG Time Travellers" presented by the National Heritage Board, which traced the lives of a family through four generations, examining how heritage is vitally important to understanding the past, the present and the future. Through the skit, students revisited the core national values such as perseverance, resilience, trust (racial harmony), cohesion, and national identity and developed a continued appreciation for Singapore's history and heritage.

- Mr Jansen Tan

# SPRING FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

## 牛转乾坤鼠气消

"The departure of the Rat heralds the year of the Ox; the arrival of the cattle shatters the rat's shadow." To celebrate the Spring Festival and welcome the year of the Ox, the school put together various activities.

During the celebration, students decorated their classrooms with origami lanterns and couplets in preparation for the "Welcome To My Home" activity, an etiquette and decoration competition where students welcomed and hosted surprise visitors.

The celebration began with a beautiful video performance by the SJC Band. The performance was creatively orchestrated as band members performed individually or in groups in adherence to the COVID-19 Safe Management Measures (SMM).

In their respective classes, students participated in the "Its Knot Difficult" session where they learnt about the history and significance of the different Chinese knots. Students were also given the opportunity to create their own "Good Luck" knot.



One highlight of the celebration was the pre-recorded skit performance titled "Ox'picious Spring Festival".

Students enjoyed the humorous skit that was put up by teachers and students who shared the importance of Chinese New Year customs and traditions.

The celebrations concluded with the melodious tunes sung by the Choir and SJC teachers. Even though we were unable to gather as a school to celebrate the Spring Festival, the students greatly benefitted from the numerous engaging and informative activities that helped them better understand the festival.

- Mr Leow Xiang Poo





## SEC ONE LEVEL CAMP CAMP SPIRITO

Secondary One Camp Spirito is part of our school's student development programme to develop students' self-confidence, build their resilience and forge strong camaraderie and team spirit through meaningful shared experiences. Students participated in team-building games and outdoor activities such as kayaking and orienteering. Through these activities, students had the opportunity to step out of their comfort zones, enjoy learning in an outdoor environment and work with others while strengthening their social skills.

- Mrs Lynn Lee



*"I would like to persevere in my studies the same way I learnt to persevere during the activities at the camp."*

- Rayne Zoe Estilong Casallo, 1B



*"Through the camp, I have learnt that communication is very important and that no matter how much stress you face, you must be kind to everyone."*

- Asokan Vino Sahana, 1G



*"I enjoyed the interesting conversations that helped me learn more about my classmates. I also had new experiences during camp like kayaking and tying ropes."*

- Syahirah Aleeya Putri Binte Suzalino, 1C







## SEC 2 LEVEL CAMP CAMP RESILIENCE

Secondary Two Camp Resilience is part of our school's student development efforts to provide a holistic learning experience for all our students. The camp sought to extend students' learning by giving them opportunities to learn more about our heritage and the environment, and to develop their self-confidence and resilience.

Students participated in various activities such as kayaking, raft-building, orienteering, upcycling and a



variety of team-building games. Through these activities, students had a chance to step out of their comfort zones and enjoy learning and working with others in the great outdoors. They also had a chance to discover their abilities and forge stronger bonds with their classmates.

**- Mrs Margaret Ng**



*"I feel I have grown to be more confident. I used to be introverted but I feel I have now become more sociable. I learnt to be more positive and voice my opinions and ideas more. I may have experienced failures during camp (like my raft falling apart) but I learnt to pick myself up and try again. I learnt from my mistakes and adapted to changes."*

**- Subramani Dhanushri, 2F**



*"This camp has taught me how to always lend a helping hand/ear to others and to stay calm when I encounter any obstacles. I got to bond with my classmates and teachers while having fun learning together."*

**- Theophilia Lim Shi En, 2B**



# SEC 3 LEVEL CAMP

## CAMP METAMORPHOSIS

The Secondary Three Camp, titled 'Metamorphosis', is part of our school's student development programme to deepen our girls' sense of compassion for others around them, equip them with knowledge and skills to build mental resilience and self-confidence while fostering stronger ties and interpersonal relationships. Over the course of three days, the Secondary Three students participated in various hands-on challenges, which tested their resilience, teamwork and creative thinking skills.

- Mrs Wong Peidi



*"I learnt that anything is possible if we put in the necessary effort and have the right mindset. I have learnt to think out of the box and be creative in finding solutions and strategies to achieve desired goals."*

**Ganesan Sivapriya, 3F**

*"I have learnt through the investing game how important it is to be attentive to details by using our senses (e.g. looking at the picture and clue items) in solving a problem as a group. I have also learnt the importance of teamwork and communication."*

**Alethea Ong Kai Leng, 3A**

*"I have learnt to understand and empathise with my group mates and friends. These are essential skills necessary to ensure the success of our VIA projects."*

**Phelia Toh Siting, 3G**





## SEC 4 & 5 LEVEL CAMP CAMP ASPIRATION

The overall theme for the Secondary 4 & 5 Level Camp this year is 'Aspirations'. We endeavoured to allow students to explore their post-secondary aspirations through online 'Zoom' sessions with lecturers from Nanyang Polytechnic. Through these interactive sessions, students had the opportunity to learn more about the courses and clarify their doubts with the lecturers.

However, it was not all serious business for our graduating cohort. The graduating cohort also engaged in team-building games that required the deciphering of messages and strategising, such as Laser Tag and Running Man.

- Ms Daphne Teo



*"I had a lot of fun taking part in the various activities with my friends and I feel that through the camp, I managed to get to know my peers better. I also gained a clearer understanding of post-secondary education, which helped with my goal setting."*

**Charlotte Poh, 4E**



# CELEBRATING SAINT JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY

2021 marks the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church. To commemorate this occasion, the Pope proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021.

In March, SJC's morning reflections were centered around the qualities of St. Joseph. Bible stories about his life were shared, enabling all students to know more about him.

The solemnity of St. Joseph is celebrated on 19 March annually but the St. Joseph's Feast Day Mass was celebrated on 12 March in the school chapel by Fr Jovita, Parish Priest of St. Anne's Church.

Presently, there are two major feasts in honour of St. Joseph. On 19 March, our veneration is directed to him personally and to his part in the work of redemption. On 1 May, we honour him as the Patron Saint of Workers



and celebrate the diligence, endurance and resilience of all who embrace work through our individual and collective God-given talents.

- Mrs Susie Lee

## NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES (NSG)

The NSG for the B Division started in Term 2, after a year's suspension in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. One of our girls, Keira Wen Ford (Sec 4G), was selected as an emcee for the NSG Opening Ceremony that was held on 31 March 2021.

SJC girls took part in the B Division Girls North Zone Championships in Badminton, Table Tennis and Volleyball while members of the Shooting CCA took part in the National Schools' Shooting Championship for Air Rifle and Air Pistol events. The school also supported Tara Jade Baran (Sec 3C) who took part in the National Schools Taekwondo Championship in the Yellow 8 Belt category, although Taekwondo is not offered as a CCA in school.

Even though training only resumed in mid-December 2020 (due to Covid-19 restrictions), the girls demonstrated perseverance and positivity in their preparations. When faced with more formidable



opponents, they demonstrated determination and displayed their best efforts. At the end of the season, through the defeats and victories experienced, many of them took away lessons of resilience and team-work.

- Ms Chow Leng Choo

## Singapore Secondary Schools Debating Championship

Five Centrestage (Debates) members participated in Division II of the Singapore Secondary Schools Debating Championships (online) this year. The team took part in three rounds of the competition. In the first round, the girls went against Xinmin Secondary School and one of our students, Celeste Priya Ezekiel (4D), clinched the title of Best Speaker. In the second round, the debaters pit their skills against Tanjong Katong Girls' Secondary School. In the final round, the team went head on against St Gabriels' Secondary School. Despite the new format of the debates and the strong competition faced in all three rounds, the team never lost faith and overcame the challenges faced during the journey. We are proud of the determination, courage, and fighting spirit displayed by the team.

- Ms Afroza Kamal Begum Binte Kamal





# SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL ARTS PRESENTATION

The 2021 Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation (AP) was a memorable one as it took place in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. The newly implemented constraints and regulations resulted in numerous changes that our Performing Arts CCAs had to quickly adapt to. These challenges brought out the resilience and dedication of our girls as they persevered to overcome them. It also allowed them to demonstrate their creative adaptability as they rose to the occasion to give their best in the SYF AP showcase.

Four of our Performing Arts CCAs, Angklung and Kulintang Ensemble, Centre Stage (English Drama), Modern Dance and Indian Dance achieved Certificates of Distinction while Concert Band, Guitar Ensemble and Handbell Ensemble achieved Certificates of

Accomplishment. Our Choir CCA, while restricted by the SMM guidelines, also put in their best effort to put up a recording of an SYF performance. We are, indeed, proud of our Performing Arts girls and we applaud them for their perseverance through the challenges and congratulate them on their accomplishments.

We also greatly appreciate the support and dedication of our CCA teachers and instructors who groomed the talents and developed the students' passion.

The unwavering spirit of our girls has been inspirational and we strive to keep the torch of the SJC Spirit ablaze!

**- Ms Chow Leng Choo**





# 20<sup>TH</sup> AWARDS CEREMONY

The 20th Awards Ceremony was held in SJC on 13th April 2021. It provided a platform to recognise the students and celebrate their achievements in both the academic as well as co-curricular domains. Due to the need to maintain safe management measures in the midst of Covid-19, the ceremony was held within the classrooms where Form Teachers presented the various awards to the award recipients in their form class.

In her opening address, our Principal, Mrs Pinto, urged all students to 'Rise above Challenges'. She stressed the need for the students to believe in themselves, and take ownership and responsibility for their learning. Mrs Pinto also took the opportunity to commend all SJCians for their grit and resilience displayed during the pandemic and emphasised the need to be adaptable in a constantly changing environment.

Although the ceremony was decentralised, it provided each class with the opportunity to celebrate their peers' successes and encourage one another, ensuring the recognition of the individuals.

The following are the Special Awards recipients for 2021:



## Cecile Tan Award - All-round student based on overall results & CCA records of 2020 for Sec 1 – 3 students from Normal Technical, Normal Academic and Express streams.

Sec 1 (2020)	Sec 2 (2020)	Sec 3 (2020)
Gwen Arellano Gwee (2B/2021)	Alexandra Veronica Collar (2C/2021)	S Pooja (4A/2021)
Soh Wen Xuan Isabelle (2G/2021)	Lin Jiaxuan, Tricia (3D/2021)	Ng Wan Jie (4C/2021)
Elisa Lim Yi-Jie (2D/2021)		Cheyenne Chew Shi En (4D/2021)

### Principal Award:

Asfar Nihar Binte Jahir Hussain  
(Sec 4F/2020)

### Sr Deirdre O'Loan Award:

Natalie Chan Yu Wen  
(Sec 4C/2020)

### Wee Eng Neo Award:

Joey Tan Ying Xuan (Sec 4C/2020)

### The Lucy & Philip Kho Bursary Award

### SJCA Special Achievement Award:

1. Kaushalya D/O Ramesh  
(Sec 4A/2020)
2. Natalie Chan Yu Wen  
(Sec 4C/2020)
3. Lee Pei Ying (Sec 4H/2020)

1. Denyshafirah Binte Mohammed Najip (Sec 1A/2020)
2. Latisha Kumaravelan  
(Sec 1A/2020)
3. Nurazlyna Azzyati Binte Mohammed Azri  
(Sec 1A/2020)



- Mrs Veronica Tjan





## Student Leaders' Investiture

The combined investiture of student leaders was presented as a classroom-based event on 27 April 2021. During the school assembly period, the Student Council, Sports Leaders, CCA Leaders and Class Leaders were featured and recognised.

The event began with an address by our Principal, Mrs Valerie Pinto, who commended the student leaders who had just stepped down from their positions for their service, commitment and adaptability over the past year of Covid-related adjustments. She also congratulated all the newly appointed student leaders for their willingness to undertake new challenges and responsibilities. In exhorting our students on the values of leadership, she emphasised the need for leaders to be **proactive** in their responsibilities, **caring** for those under their charge, and **inspiring** to those around them.

Some highlights of the event included the 'Passing of the Flame', 'Oath-taking' of the Sports Leaders and a photo montage of the new CCA leaders accompanied with one of our favoured IJ songs, 'Be the Difference'. Class Monitors and Peer Support Leaders were also presented with their badges of appointment and certificates by the form teachers.

In spite of the Covid-19 Safe Management Measures, this modified event ensured our various Student Leaders continue to be affirmed, recognised and appreciated by all.

**- Mr Robert (Bob) Chen**



## ignITE Skills Challenge

IgnITE Skills Challenge is an annual competition organised by the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). This Challenge aims to spark our students' interest in Science through fun-filled hands-on activities and develop their critical thinking skills.



A total of 12 teams comprising 36 students from Secondary 3A, 3B and 3C represented our school to compete against teams from other schools in the areas of Robotics, Programming, Social Media and Chemistry. Our participants attended workshops held virtually between 5 to 9 April 2021, which equipped them with the necessary skills for the challenge. One of the teams, "DYE MY HAIR PURPLE PLEASE" made it to the virtual finals held on 29 April 2021.

*Congratulation to the finalists from Secondary 3B - Amjath Minnah Fathima, Arissa Sonia Binte Mohd Baktiar and Saravana Prabhakaran Shwethashri*

**- Mr Tan Thuan Hock**



Enjoy your  
June holidays  
and we look forward  
to welcoming you  
back to school  
in Term 3!