

Key Updates

11. 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities

The Mother Tongue Department is excited to share the incredible journey of our students during the much-anticipated Mother Tongue Fortnight! The Mother Tongue Fortnight provides the platform for our students to engage in cultural activities to celebrate their diverse cultural heritage and experience Mother Tongue Language as ‘a living language’.

Chinese Language

Before the start of the Mother Tongue Fortnight, some of our students took centre stage by designing vibrant Mother Tongue Fortnight posters to promote the various activities. These artistic creations reflected their enthusiasm and creativity, adding a colourful touch to the entire event.



Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)

Our talented P1 students took part in a captivating Text Recital Competition as part of our ongoing efforts to celebrate the joy of language. They displayed their linguistic prowess by reciting text passages in their Mother Tongue Languages. We are proud to share that their performances were nothing short of spectacular, as they showcased their fluency, expression, and enthusiasm in text recital.

The students uploaded their recitals onto Padlet, a digital platform. We encourage parents, fellow students, and teachers to visit the Padlet (<https://tinyurl.com/P1TextRecital>) and witness the incredible talent and dedication our P1 students have put into their recitals.



Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)

A pen calligraphy competition was held for our talented P2 students to showcase their dedication and precision in the art of writing.

The commitment demonstrated by our young learners in honing their penmanship skills was truly commendable. The competition not only celebrated the aesthetic aspect of writing but also emphasised the importance of preserving and cherishing the rich cultural heritage embodied in the Chinese Language.



Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)

Our P3 to P6 students had the opportunity to participate in traditional Chinese puzzles and games, such as "Kong Ming Lock 孔明锁", "Nine Linked Rings 九连环" and "Hua Rong Dao 华容道". These activities not only encouraged critical thinking and problem-solving but also immersed our students in the cultural richness of their Chinese Language.



Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)



To conclude the eventful MT Fortnight Week, some of our students also took the lead in sharing their knowledge and learning experiences gained from their MT Fortnight Cultural Activity with their younger peers on 19th July. They engaged their fellow peers in interactive and hands-on activities during recess, bringing the essence of Mother Tongue Fortnight to life.

The recess activity not only served as a platform for knowledge sharing but also emphasized the importance of fostering strong bonds between students across the different levels.

Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)

Malay Language



The Primary 1 students had a memorable time participating in a kite-making activity. They embraced the essence of Malay culture by drawing beautiful batik designs on their kites. With their creative skills, they added vibrant colours to their kites, resulting in a colourful display of artistry and cultural appreciation.

In line with the theme, Primary 2 students delved into the traditional Malay game of "gasing" (spinning tops). Each student received a *gasing* and had the opportunity to design and play with it, allowing them to experience this cultural activity firsthand.



Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)



Primary 3 students engaged in a range of Malay traditional games, including "kelereng", "tarik upih", "bola lubang" and "gasing". They actively participated in these traditional games, fostering teamwork, coordination, and an appreciation for our cultural heritage. The students left with big smiles, proud of their heritage, and excited to have learned new skills.

Primary 4 students discover the art of *Seni Khat*, or Malay calligraphy, as we delve into its rich history and aesthetic beauty. Students explored samples of calligraphy, learn to identify characters and pronounce their sounds, and engage in hands-on practice of writing *Jawi*. Each student was given a pouch and fabric markers to trace their names in *Jawi*, allowing for personalization and creativity.



Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)



Primary 5 students, explored the culinary heritage of the Malay community. They discovered the traditional dish called "*nasi ambeng*" and learned about the various Malay herbs used in its preparation. The highlight of this activity was the opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal of "*nasi ambeng*" served on a large tray, shared amongst students, promoting cultural unity and shared experiences.



To deepen their understanding of Malay culture, Primary 6 students embarked on a project to learn and create a mini Malay traditional house. They worked diligently to construct these models, showcasing their craftsmanship and knowledge of traditional architectural elements.

Key Updates

Tamil Language

Every year during the MT Fortnight, Qifa Tamil students get the opportunity to boost their awareness of the different aspects of our Tamil culture & language. It could be about food, traditions, music, dance and many more. This year our Tamil students got a first-hand experience in the diverse forms of craft-making unique to our culture.

P1 students made Fancy *Kolams* while our P2 students made beautiful *Deepam* Wall Hangers.



P3 students crafted their own Clay Lamps & decorated them too. P4 students were exposed to Warli Art Fabric painting while both P5 and P6 students did Glass painting. students not only learnt how to create their own masterpieces but also were familiarised with the rich history & cultural background of these craft forms.

Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)

Conclusion

As educators, we are delighted to witness the growth of our students' appreciation for their Mother Tongue Languages and culture. The experiences shared during this fortnight have undeniably motivated them to cherish and embrace their cultural and linguistic identities.

We would like to express our appreciation to the teachers and students for their active participation and enthusiasm throughout the Mother Tongue Fortnight. These activities not only provided valuable cultural exposure but also fostered a deeper understanding and appreciation for the Mother Tongue Languages and cultures.



Mr Kenny Ng


HOD / Mother Tongue Languages


With contributions from the Mother Tongue Department (Mdm Nafisah & Mdm Parvathi)


Key Updates


12. Mother Tongue Fortnight Library Activities

As part of the Mother Tongue Fortnight initiative, we aimed to promote a love for reading and enhancing our students' appreciation for the Mother Tongue Languages. We conducted a series of engaging library activities to cultivate intrinsic motivation in our students to read Mother Tongue books.

 **Attractive Prizes:** To ignite students' enthusiasm, the school gave out attractive prizes as incentives for their active participation in reading Mother Tongue books. The allure of these prizes inspired our young readers to delve into the captivating world of reading.

 **Empowering Student Voice:** Our students' preferences matter! We are thrilled to promote students' voice by allowing them to choose the Mother Tongue books they want for their library. This initiative fosters a sense of ownership over their reading choices and celebrates the diversity of interests among our young learners.

 **Book Reflections:** Reading is a journey of exploration, and we believe that sharing reflections on their reading experiences with peers enhances the joy of learning. Through book reflections, students can engage in meaningful discussions, exchange ideas, and discover new perspectives within the context of their Mother Tongue literature.

 **Book Hunt Bingo Challenge:** Our students embarked on a thrilling book hunt to discover new books that the school has purchased for them. This activity allows our young readers to discover hidden gems in the Mother Tongue books in our school library.

There are also other fun and engaging such as the colouring activity related to the stories that the students read which adds an artistic touch to their reading experience and encourages them to have a deeper connection with the narratives. Students also had the opportunity to rewrite the ending of their favourite Mother Tongue stories which allows them to explore alternative conclusions, fostering critical thinking and imaginative expression.

Through these diverse activities, we aim to nurture a generation of passionate and confident readers who embrace the richness of their Mother Tongue Language. We believe that reading goes beyond words on paper; it is a transformative journey that broadens horizons, sparks imagination, and fosters lifelong learning.

Key Updates — 2023 Mother Tongue Fortnight Activities (cont'd)

Fun and engaging library activities during MT Fortnight

Sharing of Book Reflections with peers



Mr Ng Joon Khang
Senior Teacher / Chinese Language

Mr Kenny Ng
HOD / Mother Tongue Languages

Key Updates

13. National Education (NE) Show

National Day (ND) is one of the key NE commemorative events which schools engage students and teachers to celebrate Singapore's independence and her emergence as a sovereign nation. Since 1997, NE Shows, a special preview to National Day Parade (NDP), have been organized to provide a cohort experience for Primary 5 students to immerse themselves in the full spectacle of the NDP.

This year, our students attended the NE Show at The Padang, with the Singapore city skyline as its magnificent backdrop. The theme 'Onward As One' calls upon Singaporeans to look forward confidently and move onward together in building our shared future as one united people.

Our students had an amazing experience as they witnessed the spectacular scenes on display, such as the entrance of our fearless Red Lions, and the enhanced Aerial Display by the Republic of Singapore Air Force. They waved the Singapore flag proudly, drummed to the beat of our National Day songs, and took part in the iconic Padang Wave! This experience has definitely impressed upon our students the significance of National Day.



Key Updates — National Education (NE) Show (cont'd)



Say Cheese!



Students and teachers forming the Padang Wave.



Our Teachers

Mr Leang Shi Yan
Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) Coordinator

Key Updates

14. Embracing Global Connections: Qifa Primary's Cultural Exchange Programme with Singapore Japanese School

At Qifa Primary School, we take pride in our longstanding partnership with the Singapore Japanese School (SJS). This enduring collaboration allows us to offer a yearly cultural exchange programme for our Primary 2 and Primary 3 students. Through this programme, we aim to cultivate global awareness, cross-cultural skills, and effective communication abilities, equipping our students with the essential 21st Century Competencies (21CC) needed to thrive in an interconnected world.

In preparation for the cultural exchange programme, our students eagerly participated in engaging and interactive Social Studies lessons. These lessons served as a platform for them to learn simple Japanese phrases and essential cultural etiquettes, allowing them to become warm and welcoming hosts for the visiting SJS students. By laying this foundation for cultural understanding, we fostered a sense of excitement and anticipation among our students.



Pre-Exchange Lessons: Preparing Our Students for the Cultural Exchange

Moreover, our Primary 3 students embarked on an enrichment lesson focused on game development using recycled materials. The lesson aimed to equip them with the skills to create innovative and eco-friendly games, which they would later use during their interactions with their Japanese peers. This hands-on experience further enhanced their creativity and problem-solving abilities, enriching their cultural exchange journey.

Key Updates — *Qifa Primary's Cultural Exchange Programme with SJS (cont'd)*

Playing the Host & Deepening Cross-Cultural Connections

During the first phase of the cultural exchange programme, Qifa Primary had the honour of hosting the students from the Singapore Japanese School. Our students eagerly welcomed their Japanese counterparts with open arms. The atmosphere was filled with anticipation and curiosity as our students embraced the opportunity to engage with a different culture. Throughout the exchange programme, our students participated in a range of enriching activities designed to promote cultural immersion and cross-cultural understanding. They actively collaborated with the SJS students in various games and activities.



Uniting Through Games and Fun: Qifa Primary and Singapore Japanese School students bond through friendly games, embracing the spirit of cultural exchange.

Key Updates — *Qifa Primary's Cultural Exchange Programme with SJS (cont'd)*



Overcoming Cultural Differences: SJS and Qifa Primary students bonding over games

Later in the same week, our students had the opportunity to visit their SJS counterparts and immersed themselves in interactive get-to-know-you sessions and a wide range of activities that were organised for them. They were visibly excited and enthusiastically embraced the chance to learn about Japanese arts, traditions, and values.



*Bridging Cultures Through Creativity:
Qifa Primary and Singapore Japanese School students immerse themselves in self-made games,
fostering cultural understanding and friendship.*

Key Updates — *Qifa Primary's Cultural Exchange Programme with SJS (cont'd)*



Immersing in Japanese Traditions: Qifa Primary students get a taste of simple but energetic Japanese singing with body movements

The cultural exchange programme facilitated meaningful interactions and connections between our students and the SJS students. Through shared experiences, conversations, and collaborative activities, our students not only gained a deeper understanding of Japanese culture but also developed cross-cultural bonds. This intercultural exchange allowed them to appreciate the similarities and differences between their own cultural heritage and that of their Japanese counterparts.

Key Updates — *Qifa Primary's Cultural Exchange Programme with SJS (cont'd)*



*Bridging Cultures Through Creativity and Games:
Qifa Primary students immerse themselves in the art of Japanese calligraphy and painting as well as traditional games, fostering cultural understanding and friendship with the SJS students.*

Enriching School Experiences to Develop Well-Rounded Students

The cultural exchange programme with the Singapore Japanese School has been a truly transformative experience for our Primary 2 and Primary 3 students. It has provided them with a unique opportunity to embrace global connections, deepen their cross-cultural understanding, and develop essential 21CC. We express our gratitude to the Singapore Japanese School for their partnership and commend our students for their warm hospitality and eagerness to learn. Through initiatives like this, we are confident that our students will grow into compassionate, culturally sensitive, and globally aware individuals.

Mr Mohamad Faisal Jamain
HOD / Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy & Partnerships (LEAP)
On behalf of Team (ICs: Mdm Soh Hui Ting & Ms Soh Yi An)

Key Updates

15. Racial Harmony Day Commemoration 2023

Racial Harmony Day (RHD) is an annual event held on 21 July to commemorate the communal riots of 1964. It teaches our students the importance of maintaining racial and religious harmony in Singapore's multicultural and multi-ethnic society. It is important that Racial Harmony remains part of this identity and way of life for all of us living in Singapore. Our youths must make racial harmony a key aspect of their hopes and dreams for what Singapore is and could be.



This year's theme is 'Singapore: Our Multicultural Mosaic'. It reflects how each community, while having the space to express its own identity as part of Singapore's society, also intertwines with one another's to depict the unique cultural diversity that characterises Singapore life. The overall picture may change with time as our society evolves like all societies do, but the hues will continue to complement one another because of our long-shared history and heritage. This is Singapore's bespoke approach towards multiculturalism and social cohesion, where the experiences of every individual matter and add to our diversity.



Qifa Primary School commemorated RHD from 19 July — 21 July where all of us came together to celebrate our diversity and richness. There are 2 parts to the commemoration:

- A. Recess booth: Students put in questions that they have about other ethnic communities and religions. This is to create a safe space for them to raise questions that they are curious about.
- B. Thursday Assembly: From the questions raised, frequent misconceptions are identified through the interactive "Myth Buster" game.

Key Updates — Racial Harmony Day Commemoration 2023 (cont'd)

During CCE (FTGP), our Form Teachers conducted RHD lessons focusing on how students can do their part to promote racial harmony, such as showing respect during cultural and religious festivals, understanding others' beliefs and needs, and appreciating the customs practised in different cultures. Our Primary 4 students also took part in the Orange Ribbon activity as part of their cohort experience, creating posters to stand up against unkind words as Racial Harmony champions.

Over 3 days of recess, students visited the Qifa Heritage Gallery and took part in hands-on activities facilitated by our NE Ambassadors. They played traditional games with their peers, and had their knowledge of our iconic community songs and NDP songs put to the test during an engaging segment of "Don't Forget the Lyrics".

We look forward to your continuous support in encouraging our students to take on an active role in appreciating each other as we work together towards multiculturalism and social cohesion to form our collective identity as one Singapore.



Ms Camy Ong
Year Head / Middle Primary
On behalf of SDMT and CCE committee

Key Updates — Racial Harmony Day Commemoration 2023 (cont'd)



Student identifying the fact.



Our student presenters busting the myths.



Students Engaging in Classroom Discussions

Key Updates — Racial Harmony Day Commemoration 2023 (cont'd)

Orange Ribbon Posters (Created by Primary 4 Students)

Harmony Begins with Us
I will tell my friend "Please don't say that."

Our Names:
Izzairyl, Irfan, Sadhan, Jayson

OCE ONE

Harmony Begins with Us
By: understanding and appreciating different cultures.
When we see or hear words and actions, we should be thoughtful about...

Our Names:
- Tristen
- Eithan
- Yikang
- Ryan
- Keaton

OCE ONE

Harmony Begins with Us

1. Learn to ask clarifying questions instead of making nasty comments.
2. If I see someone making nasty comments, I will tell them what they are doing is wrong.
3. If they do not listen and ignore what I say, inform the teacher.

Our Names:
Cherelle, Charmaine, Sophie, Arianna, Suk Ting

OCE ONE

Harmony Begins with Us
One person makes a difference to harmony and peace, if we all do our part.

Our Names:
Regina
Sabrina
Swee Yin
Julia

YOU ARE AWESOME

We will respond firmly but eg. respectfully.
"It is not kind to say such things."

Think Positive

OCE ONE

Harmony Begins with Us
We should respect everyone's race and religion.

Our Names:
Zi Loong, Ashton, Yu meng, Jayson

Thank you for your kindness

I would not fight back and tell an adult. I would tell them that it is not nice to say that.

OCE ONE

Harmony Begins with Us
Harmony begins with us because, even if we have differences we must appreciate others cultures.

Our Names:
Daryl, Vishakha, Eejyun, Julian

Thank you for your kindness

I would tell the person that he could be more polite to other races. I would also ask if I could explain to him about my race.

Wow

Think Positive

OCE ONE

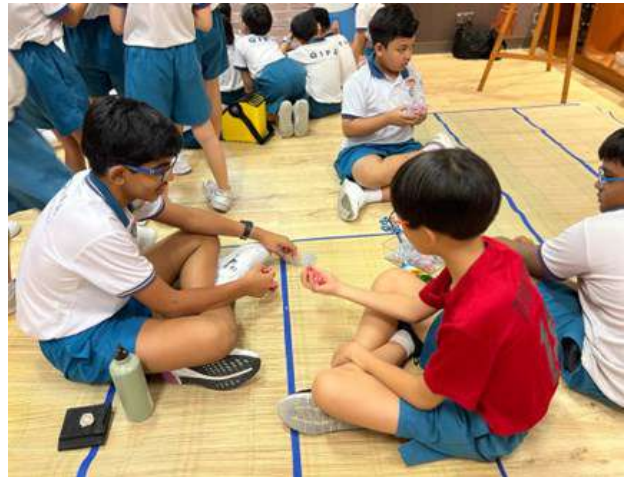
Key Updates — Racial Harmony Day Commemoration 2023 (cont'd)

Fun Times with their Friends



Key Updates — Racial Harmony Day Commemoration 2023 (cont'd)

Qifa Heritage Gallery RHD Recess Activities



Key Updates

16. P3 Cultural Performance Exposure Scheme

The Cultural Performance Exposure Scheme (CPES) - an initiative by the Committee to Promote Chinese Language Learning (CPCLL) provides schools with funding and support to engage students in Chinese dramas and Chinese-Language related performances by local and overseas arts groups.

The Chinese Department organised a theatrical drama learning journey for our P3 students on 21 July, Friday, where our students embarked on a theatrical drama learning journey to Festive Arts Theatre, Our Tampines Hub, to watch a cultural performance by the local and overseas performing arts group and truly immersed themselves in an enthralling tale from the Chinese folklore, "Sun Wukong's Borrowed Treasure 孙悟空龙宫借宝".

Such theatrical drama experience fosters in our students a deeper understanding in the Chinese culture, igniting their curiosity and enthusiasm in the learning of the Chinese language.



Mr Kenny Ng
HOD / Mother Tongue Languages

Key Updates

17. Primary 2 Learning Journey to Jacob Ballas Children's Garden

Recently in July, the Primary 2 students went on a learning journey to the National Orchid Garden. The learning journey, which integrated the learning outcomes for Social Studies, allowed our students to contextualise their learning in an authentic real-world setting. We believe that such experiential learning experiences for our young ones would also help to create joy of learning as they learn to explore, construct new knowledge and make connections to their learning in the classroom.

Our students were brought around on a guided tour to explore more about Singapore's national flower and other orchid hybrids. They had the opportunity to learn more about the characteristics and parts of the orchid flower. Through the learning journey, students were able to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the National Symbols of Singapore and develop a sense of belonging to the nation.



Inquisitive students learning about sundials.



Our students observing their environment & found a squirrel exploring in its nature.



Students learning about parts of a flower and relating to the Orchid.



Students attentively involved in learning more about Orchids.

Key Updates — P2 Learning Journey to Jacob Ballas Children's Garden (cont'd)



Happy faces of students after learning about Singapore's National Flower.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Begum", written in a cursive style.

Ms Shabeena Begum
Teacher-in-charge

Key Updates

18. National Day 2023 – Onward As One

9 August 1965 reminds us of our emergence as an independent country. It is a moment for us to reflect on the historical importance and solemnity of National Day.

The theme, 'Onward As One' calls upon Singaporeans to look forward confidently and move onward together in building our shared future as one united people.



The school will be commemorating National Day on **Tuesday, 8 August 2023** from **7.30am to 10.00am**. **Students are to report to the School Hall** for Observance Ceremony by 7.20am. They are strongly encouraged to wear a **red T-shirt** with the school shorts or skirt. Alternatively, students can also come in their school uniform. National Day classroom activities will take place from 9.00am to 10.00am. Students need to bring a small bag which contains their pencil case, water bottle, and a light snack.

Please note that **Wednesday, 9 August 2023** is **National Day**, a public holiday. **Thursday, 10 August 2023** is a scheduled school holiday. School will resume on **Friday, 11 August 2023**.

As part of our Family Education efforts, we strongly encourage family members to participate in the GetActive! Singapore Heartland Festivals' activities. Please access the link for more information: <https://www.ndp.gov.sg/ticketing/heartland-festivals/>

Wishing you a Happy National Day! Let's Onward As One!

Mr Leang Shi Yan
Character and Citizenship Education
(CCE) Coordinator

Ms Mumtaz Maideen
HOD / Character and Citizenship
Education (CCE)

Accolades

1. National Sports Games — Volleyball

The curtain has drawn on the much-anticipated National Sports Games for volleyball, and our school is proud of the performance of our P4 and P5 students in the junior division. Both teams displayed commendable efforts and secured their place in Tier 1 groupings after the classification round, with our boys' team proudly clinching the top spot and our girls' team securing an impressive second place.

Throughout the lead-up to the competitions, our dedicated players demonstrated unwavering commitment to their training. Their resilience and cohesive teamwork shone brightly during the entire competition season, showcasing their growing passion for the sport. They experienced valuable life lessons along the way, learning humility in the face of setbacks, the importance of trusting their teammates, and the value of hard work and perseverance during rigorous training sessions.

We celebrate the success of our players and acknowledge the invaluable experience they have gained. The spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie they have cultivated will undoubtedly serve them well in all their future endeavours.

Congratulations to our remarkable players for a truly inspiring performance and for making us proud!



Mr Ng Joon Khang
Teacher-in-charge / Volleyball

Accolades — NSG Volleyball (cont'd)



Junior Boys



Junior Girls

Accolades

2. A Great Conclusion to the Basketball Season

It has been a very eventful last six months of Basketball National School Games. Following the Senior team's success, our Junior Teams also returned with commendable achievements. Unlike the Senior 5 on 5 competition, the Juniors participated in the 3 on 3 competition. A total of 102 schools competed at the Junior Boys Division and 48 schools competed in the Junior Girls Division.

Our students competed in the classification rounds where the top two teams went into Tier 1 with the boys finished 2nd in the classification round and the girl's finished 1st in the classification round.

In the Tiered 1 round the boys emerged Champions and the girls finished 2nd missing out by a point. The players showed lots of courage and resilience during this competition and displayed good sportsmanship too.

It has been a successful season. We would like to thank all parents, coaches, all teachers and School Leaders for the support and motivation given to the players.



Junior Boys Tier 1 Champions!

Accolades — NSG Basketball (cont'd)



Junior Girls proud to represent Qifa



*Travis Lee Yanrui (4E)
Most Valuable Player, Junior Boys*



*Goh Yanqi (5E)
Most Valuable Player, Junior Girls*

Mr R Govindarajan
Teacher-in-charge / Basketball

Accolades

3. Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Youth Station Project 2023

In Term 2, four Primary 4 students: *Wyatt Aw (4C)*, *Verlyn Ong (4C)*, *Janice Zoey Hermanto (4G)* and *Ge Jingyue (4G)* participated in the annual SYF Youth Station Project, dedicated to showcasing students' original song compositions and creative works.

Over a span of 8 weeks, the students collaborated to write their own lyrics, plan music arrangements, practised respective instrumental parts, and recorded the song on a digital audio workstation with some guidance from the Music teachers.

We are proud to announce that our students' original song composition titled "*Dreams Made Possible*" has been selected as one of the Top 10 songs for the Primary Schools category.



Congratulations to our songwriters!

"*Dreams Made Possible*" is about making one's dreams possible. The students wrote the lyrics and a catchy rap surrounding the theme, 'Inspire'. They hope to encourage Qifa students to be resilient even in difficult times and work together to achieve their dreams.

Accolades — SYF Youth Station Project 2023 (cont'd)

As part of the SYF celebrations this year, the four students were also invited to perform their song at the 'Youth Station Live!' showcase event on 28 June 2023 at the Esplanade Library, which was an event opened to the public.

With the support from family and teachers, our young talents performed their song with great enthusiasm, pride, and confidence. This experience has provided our students with a unique opportunity to express their creative ideas, develop musicianship skills, and learn to be respectful contributors with passion!

"Dreams Made Possible" will be featured on the official SYF Youtube channel, Instagram, and Facebook platforms.

Do support our students by listening to their encouraging song!



Well done to our students!

Ms Michelle Lau
Music Teacher

Mr Aaron Koh
HOD / PE, Aesthetics, & CCA