

# Epsom Magazine

A MAGAZINE BY EPSOMIANS FOR EPSOMIANS

## COLLEGE CREST

LEARNING ABOUT  
THE COLLEGE CREST

## 3 DECADES LATER... COVIDLESS LIFE

FEATURING QCEC  
GOLD AWARD ESSAY

## EPSOM EVENTS

TERM 1 REVIEW

Photo taken at ECiM by Cadence

# FOREWORD



Welcome to another term and indeed another year! Can it really be 2022 already?! How time has flown! I cannot believe that we are almost midway through the academic year.

This mid term break I enjoyed listening to some fascinating radio programmes that I would like to share with you:

[\*New Year Solutions\*](#)

[\*Generation Change\*](#)

[\*Inside Science - James Webb Telescope\*](#)

I am sure that you have all heard about the launch of the James Webb telescope. This amazing feat of human engineering may allow us to witness the dawn of the first stars. I cannot wait to see what it reveals. The Generation Science programme and New Year Solutions provide fascinating insights into how innovation and inquiry can enable us to solve the problems we face as a global society. At Epsom we love to ponder big questions and grapple with big ideas.

The inspirational young people that I encounter daily in my role at Epsom makes me hopeful for the future. They have such potential...

As we look forward to the new year and beyond, I am sure that we all have resolutions, things that we want to improve and goals that we have set for ourselves... While it is good to look ahead, it is also important to take some time out. Why not take some time out now? This moment is a gift - that is why it is called the 'present'! So, relax, grab a cup of coffee or tea, sit back and immerse yourself in the articles that our students have prepared for you in this, our College Magazine.

Happy New Year!

*Catherine Kate Carden-Brown*

Director of Admissions and Higher Education

Senior Leadership Team

Epsom International School



# COLLEGE CREST

By Cadence Ong Jing Han

It belonged to the Propert family;  
John Propert founded Epsom College in 1855.

*The Crest is a coloured wreath with the head and open wings of an eagle and further fleurs de lis and this sits on top of the military helmet.*

The **eagle** represents action and effort.

*Most coats of arms are formed of 3 parts: Arms, Crest & Motto.*

The **book** represents the advancement of life through learning.

The sentence on the book "**Olim meminisse iuvabit**" is based on a quote from Virgil but is taken out of context: "forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit": "and perhaps it will be pleasing to have remembered these things one day"— Virgil, Eclogues. Georgics. Aeneid: Books 1-6

The **lamp** represents light and life.

The **3 fleurs de lis** represent faith, wisdom and valour.

*The central shield first is known as the Arms. The officially granted colours are azure and gold, although you will notice red and black also included. The Arms are formed of three fleurs de lis, the open book, the lamp and the rod.*

The motto is **Deo non fortuna;**  
Latin for  
"Not through luck but by God"

The rod with the serpent wrapped around comes from Greek mythology. The **Rod of Asclepius** also known as the Staff of Aesculapius, is a serpent-entwined rod wielded by the Greek god Asclepius, a deity associated with healing and medicine.

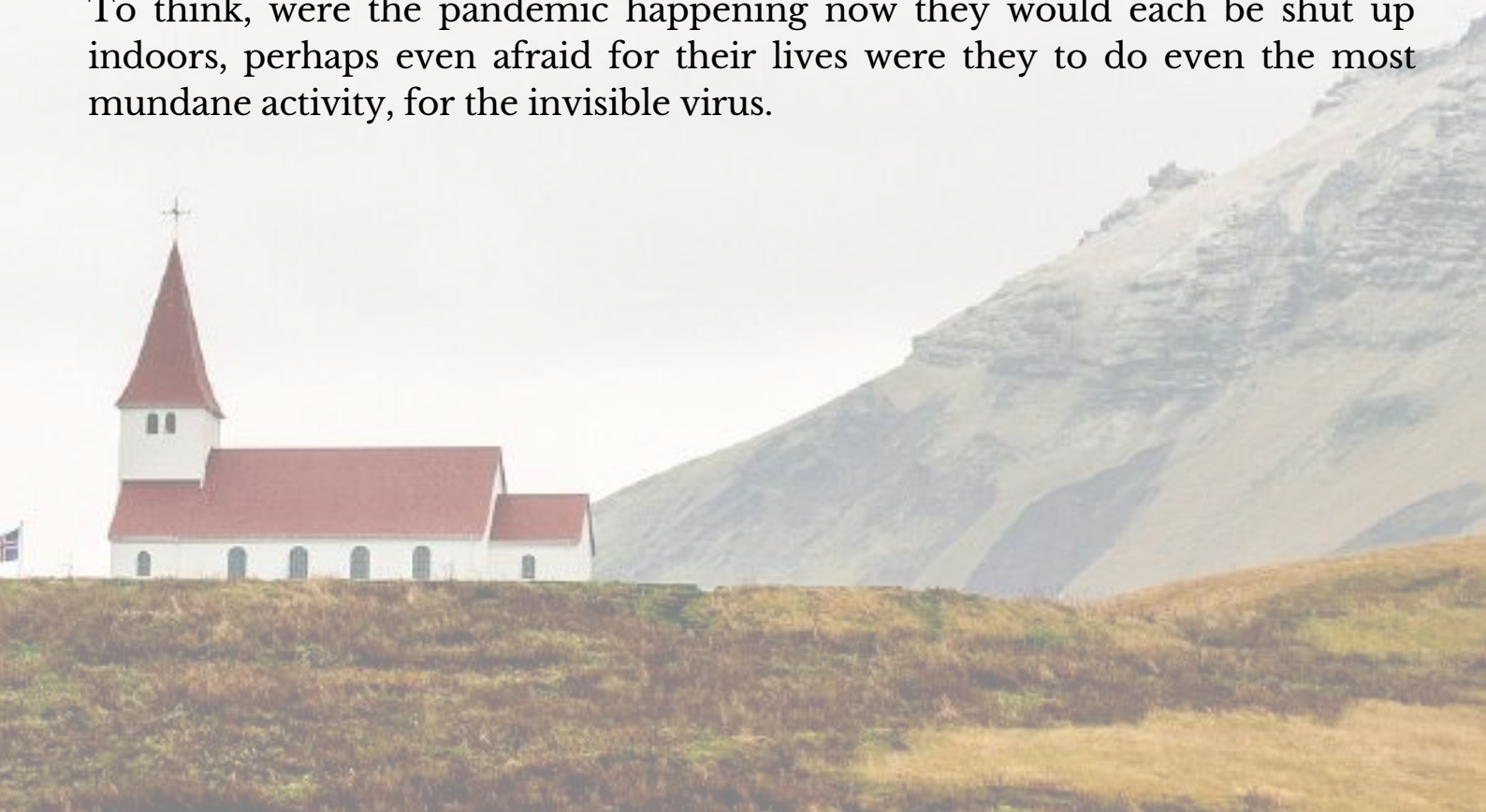


# THREE DECADES LATER... COVIDLESS LIFE

*By Cadence Ong Jing Han*

The first rays of sunlight shine through the chink in my curtains as if it is trying to wake me up. I rub my bleary eyes while walking to the French windows. The sunlight pours into my room as soon as I draw the curtains open. Standing at the balcony, I look up to the sky. A melodious tone floats through the air: the birds' dawn chorus, sung merrily from the branches. What a lovely morning. I close my eyes, bathing in the warmth of the sun. I feel the gentle wind caressing my skin, combing my hair. I sense peace and freedom.

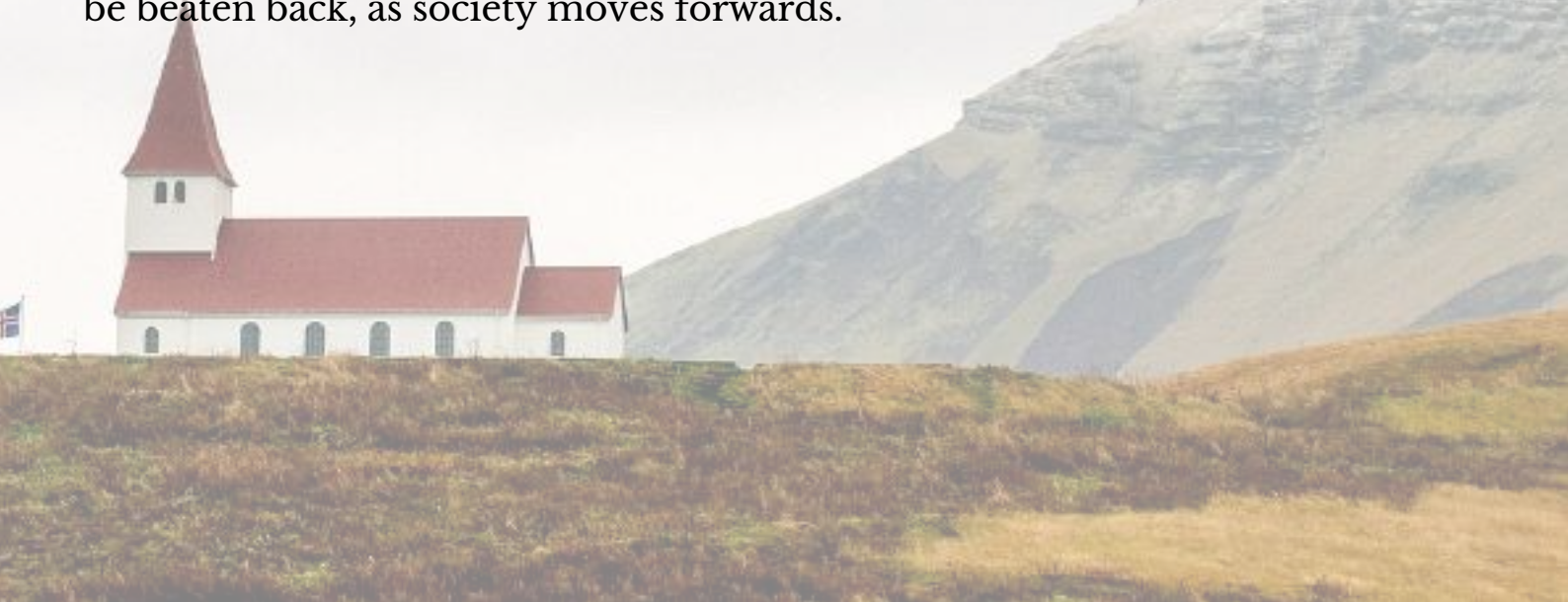
Today marks the thirtieth year since the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. Looking at the calendar, I am drawn into deep thoughts. I cannot help but recall the anxiety, the fear, and the frustration. For months, you would hardly see a smile in person for the necessity of a mask; reports of rising death tolls, every few weeks a new miserable milestone would be reached somewhere; hospitals congested with patients, sometimes even turning others away; doctors and nurses working overtime, perpetually at risk themselves. It all seemed to happen yesterday. I am grateful that the world has been free for so long from the masks and social distancing. Looking down from the balcony, I can see a mother sitting on a white-painted wooden bench at the park, breastfeeding her child; children run here and there, chasing after each other and there are waves of laughter in the air; an elderly man walks with his wife on the footpath, his hand on her shoulder. They turn to each other, content. To think, were the pandemic happening now they would each be shut up indoors, perhaps even afraid for their lives were they to do even the most mundane activity, for the invisible virus.





I am so fortunate, so grateful, for having survived the pandemic, and so are my loved ones. The COVID-19 pandemic has taught people that life is unpredictable and tomorrow may never come. People have come to realise that life is fragile and humans can be so vulnerable. In today's world, teenagers tend to spend more time with their parents. Rather than studying or working overseas, separating from parents, many settle closer to home. Meanwhile, parents nowadays do not busy themselves with hectic schedules anymore. Instead, they try to pay more attention to their children, involving themselves in their development. Following the pandemic, I am so glad that people have finally learned to appreciate their loved ones besides treasuring life and valuing every moment in their life and this continues till today. The generations born after the Covid-19 outbreak are lucky to have been born in such a caring society, void of the greed and selfishness of the past.

Over these thirty years, the world has changed significantly. The pandemic has awakened a sense of unity in people - it continues today. When Covid-19 became a global issue, geography was no longer an issue. People united regardless of skin colour, race and religion as they had the same objective which was to free the world from the pandemic. Many countries with the means to do so invented vaccines. Organisations like the United Nations (UN) worked to spread vaccines. Making them available to poorer governments. Under normal circumstances, the invention of a new vaccine takes ten to fifteen years. Myriad vaccines for COVID-19 were invented within a year - praise be to science. New trust in medicine and collaboration was born, one unconcerned with borders. Institutions collaborate and feuding governments do not interfere, information is free and open, no organisation hoards it for profit or advantage. The last pandemic was almost ten years ago now. However, thanks to COVID-19, the world was better prepared for such a catastrophe, little was lost, the cost was negligible compared to Covid. Production time for novel medicines and treatments has fallen dramatically, owing to this new attitude towards health and wellbeing. Diseases continue to be beaten back, as society moves forwards.



There was a time during the pandemic when people stayed at home - no vehicles were on the road and no factories were operating as well. The lockdown implemented in almost every country improved air quality. It was especially obvious in India. According to the journal "Urban Climate" published in March 2021 on DirectScience, except Delhi and Patna, there was a more than a 40% decrease in carbon monoxide in north Indian cities. I can still remember when social media exploded with the news of the Himalayan mountain range being visible from more than 100 miles away, people in the state of Punjab reacted with awe. Some even claimed that they had not seen the peaks of the Himalayas for decades. With this, people started to be aware of how serious a threat air pollution was becoming.

The issues of air pollution and global warming arise and have created great concern in people all over the world. Countries are aiming to achieve carbon neutrality, which means the net result of zero emission. Conserving and preserving forests, reducing air pollution, and banning fossil fuels have been the main focus of the people these past thirty years. In many countries, roads are practically silent for only electric cars driving on the streets - diesel and petrol vehicles were banned years ago. Car-pooling and the use of public transport have become widespread in the countries where electric cars are not introduced yet. On the other hand, in Korea, they have expanded their green lungs by planting a 50-acre forest. The nature enthusiast in Malaysia also takes initiative to plant trees along the streets, throwing shade over breaking grass, and soaking up remnant carbon dioxide. Meanwhile, the Indian government has forced every industry owner to install catalytic converters in their factories to reduce the emission of toxic gases. Leaders have been collaborating to tackle air pollution by sending scientists to other countries to exchange knowledge and ideas with other specialists. More and more alternative energy sources are being introduced. Besides biomass, wind, solar, and water, scientists are developing techniques to create petroleum substitutes. That is a great invention!





We all often wonder if there is another pandemic that will be as destructive as COVID. Society now is almost disparate from what it was thirty years ago; I feel that it can guard against the threats posed by diseases. No, I do not think I fear a pandemic like covid: it could not happen today. What is frightening is the unknown. Thirty years ago, we were all unprepared for COVID, it came suddenly and from nowhere, its origins took years to pin down. I sometimes worry about what else could arrive in such a terrifying manner. And yet I am optimistic: we defeated COVID and were better for it, we can do the same again. Smiling, I turn to the small box of masks, still lying at the bottom of my cupboard, from all those years passed.

## QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION 2021

GOLD AWARD



# SLUGS, SLIME & MUCUS

*Kirsten Teow Sue Fang*

Slugs, slime and mucus. Have you ever touched a slug's slime before? Well, I'm very lucky to not have had touched a slug's slime before. However, one of my teachers told me in a conversation that they had, and it was the stickiest thing ever- extremely difficult to get it off you for some reason. Very very interesting...

So I dug around a bit:

It turns out that slugs secrete mucus that absorbs water as an adaptation to prevent them from getting dehydrated. On top of that, there are some salts mixed with the mucus and water- SLIME! Its mucus is made of the glycoprotein mucin.

Mucins are very important in a myriad of things because of their beneficial properties (such as lubrication) and thus are found in many cells. From doing some reading about them, I found out about glycoscience. This is very cool. I never heard of glycoscience before!

Basics of mucins structure: a central protein covered with O-linked glycosylations, which are attachments of sugar molecules to an oxygen atom on the amino acid serine or threonine. (Forgive me if the grammar around this is weird, it is a new concept to me and I am still learning.)

Anyway, mucins can absorb water because they contain glycans that form hydrogen bonds with water to form hydrated mucin. Then these molecules arrange themselves in a structure that traps even more water molecules. This structure is described to be a mesh. Overall, the mucins absorbing water forms a thick gel that can be very sticky- which is why if you get slug slime on your hands, adding water to the mix just makes it even stickier!



With this amazing property (along with other amazing properties of mucins in slime slug) scientists have been investigating how this can be used as a medical adhesive. The main challenge for current medical adhesives is that you can't get one that is non-toxic, very sticky AND flexible all at the same time. But maybe slug slime is the answer. It's sticky enough, flexible enough and can be non-toxic. Not only will the mucins associate with the water molecules of tissues and cells, the mucins may intertwine with the surface proteins to attach to the tissue physically.

Trials of this have been successful on pig skin, pig heart and rat livers. This is incredible, think about how the heart is constantly beating, in a constant cycle of repeated expansions, yet the slug slime inspired adhesive is able to hold it all together! Despite having a ways to go, it is all very promising. This kind of reminds me of how Peter Parker (Spider-man) of the Marvel Universe made his own spider webs, except- slug slime version.

As always, please correct me if I have misinformed anything by accident. I hope you enjoyed reading this as much as I have had writing it!



# SUNSET SERENADE

*Thet Htarr May (Molly)*

The Sunset Serenade, held on the 27th of October 2021, was the first physical concert held after the school had reopened from the pandemic. The IGCSE music students have spent months working on their pieces to give the audience the best experience. This talented group of musicians, consisting of students from year 10 and year 11, have put together many different pieces from various eras ranging from classical to jazz and all the way to the 20th century. Moreover, there were both solo and group performances, which took a lot of time and effort to arrange practices and synchronise beforehand. The performers' fingers danced over the instruments, such as the piano, guitar and the violin.

On the performance day itself, the students could be seen wearing their flattering outfits, and making beautiful music at the tips of their fingers. With every movement made, the melodies blended in perfectly with one another. The concert was well put-together all because of the help of the Music teachers and the performing arts department. The stage, lights and setup were prepared very well to give the performers a smooth display of their hardwork and dedication to music. The rehearsal highlighted the areas that needed improvement and it brought the final concert together so well.





# SUNSET SERENADE

*Thet Htarr May (Molly)*

The students invited many of their parents and friends to the 'Sunset Serenade' - all fully-vaccinated - which really improved the safety of both the students and the audience. The school also invited three inspiring musicians from the Malaysian symphony orchestra to give comments on the concert and I think we did a pretty good job. The audience enjoyed the relaxing music and they could also be seen jamming along to the upbeat music of the jazz improvisation by our young guitarist from year 10. Not to forget the year 11 talented pianists who received compliments throughout the evening after the concert.

I enjoyed the practice sessions and rehearsals where I worked closely with my teacher and friends to improve my performance and also to give a confidence boost in myself after many months of not playing once in front of a crowd due to the pandemic. The 'Sunset Serenade' concert gave us hope that we can get through this madness that has been lasting for years. It gave us hope that we can host more concerts like this in the future, a hope that when working together we can accomplish joy so special that we can help spread it around us (while following SOPs of course).



# HOUSE BAND RESULTS

**1**



Granville

**2**



Propert

**3**



Crawfurd

**4**



Rosebery

**5**



Carr





*Chit Kyo Nge (Kaith)*

## HOUSE BAND COMPETITION

The house band competition held on the 26th of November 2021 was the first-ever house competition held this academic year. It took place in the Duke of York Theatre and every performing student was extremely excited to be able to show what they are capable of in front of a huge crowd.

The students from the 5 houses: Probert, Granville, Rosebery, Crawford and Carr gave their all for this thrilling event and everyone was very cooperative. There were 3 categories for this competition: Solo/Duet, Pop and Instrumental. Each house presented various music genres and the audience was always looking forward to the next performance. One can definitely tell how much these students prepared for this house competition by the confidence that sparkled in each of their eyes. From the junior house to the senior house, the music was well-projected and it really mesmerised the crowd.

During rehearsals, the students proved their leadership and collaboration by strengthening each other's skills. They learned to work well in a group and always have something to contribute to the performance. Teamwork was the highlight of this house band competition. Students held practice sessions themselves and were willing to spare their lunch breaks to improve their skills. This led to them projecting an ultimate performance for the crowd.

On the day of the competition, everyone dressed really well which best suited their themes. Every performer was glad to be able to take part as their respective house representatives. Other house members who did not participate in the performance helped out with the lighting and stage arrangements. Cheers from friends could also be heard which really motivated the performers and their group.

The winner of this house band competition was Granville; 2nd place was Propert and 3rd place was Crawford although I believed that each house had done an amazing job and presented the audience with their best performances. There were winners and runner ups for every category and each was given a certificate for their hard work. For the Solo/Duet and Instrumental Categories, the winners were both Propert. As for the Pop category, the winner was Granville.



We were extremely fortunate to be able to hold this competition because it provided Epsom's young musicians a chance to showcase their talent, skills and aptitude. I was also extremely thrilled to be part of this competition and I hope we'll be holding more events like this in the near future.



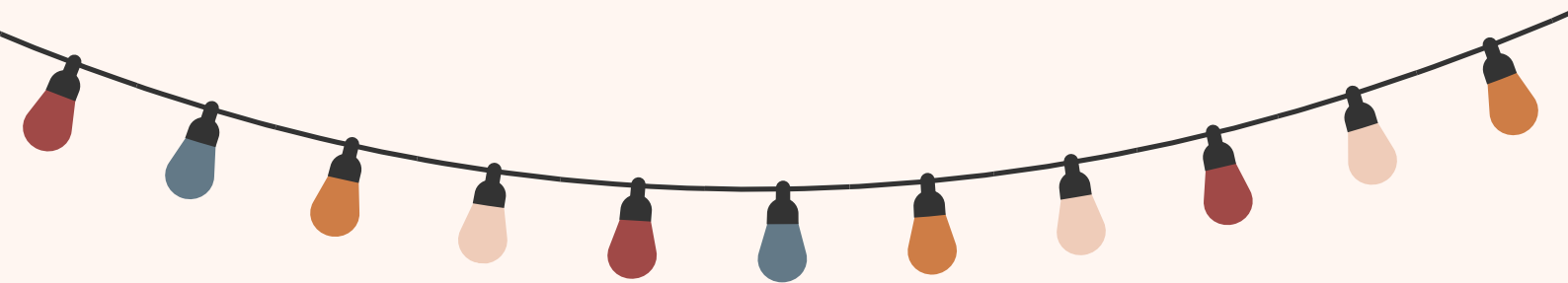


With no lockdown this academic term (and hopefully never again), the Epsom community took full advantage and celebrated every second we had. Before breaking off for the Christmas holidays, the school hosted an awesome Christmas Evening on the 9th of December.

There were two main parts, the first being the Christmas Concert. A total of 14 incredible performances were presented that night ranging from dances like 'Go Big or Go Home' to Christmas songs such as 'Santa tell me' or 'All I want for Christmas is You'. The prefect team ended the concert with a choir, 'It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas', with some drama elements.



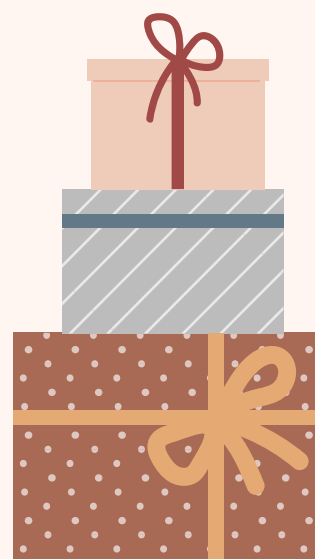
Apart from the great harmonies and choreography that were put on, what truly sealed the deal were the emcees or hosts. Their brief but spectacular introductions before each piece allowed a flawless overall performance, creating a more efficient and enjoyable night. Not to mention their jokes like the AirAsia emergency procedure or Kayshean's dance moves, caused the audiences to burst into laughter.



As the concert came to an end, both students and staff were greeted to the dining hall supplied with incredible service and a fancy 3-course meal.

It was only then our tradition of 'Christmas Dinner' finally commenced. Everything looked fabulous. The re-opened Dining hall, the food and the people! Our senior school students starting from Year 7 to our Year 13 seniors were all in sharp-looking suits or beautiful dresses. It did not take long before everyone got out of their seats and ran to the balcony (for pictures), where Christmas decor was put up by the Social Prefects (Yi Chen and Raihana).

The dinner lasted around 90 minutes. But for the students, it might have felt like we had just sat down. Time flies when you are having fun — and I bet everyone did! At around 9:30 p.m., the Christmas Dinner was wrapped up with a bang. Everyone in the dining hall stood up and sat down and stood up again as we finished off with '12 Days of Christmas'.





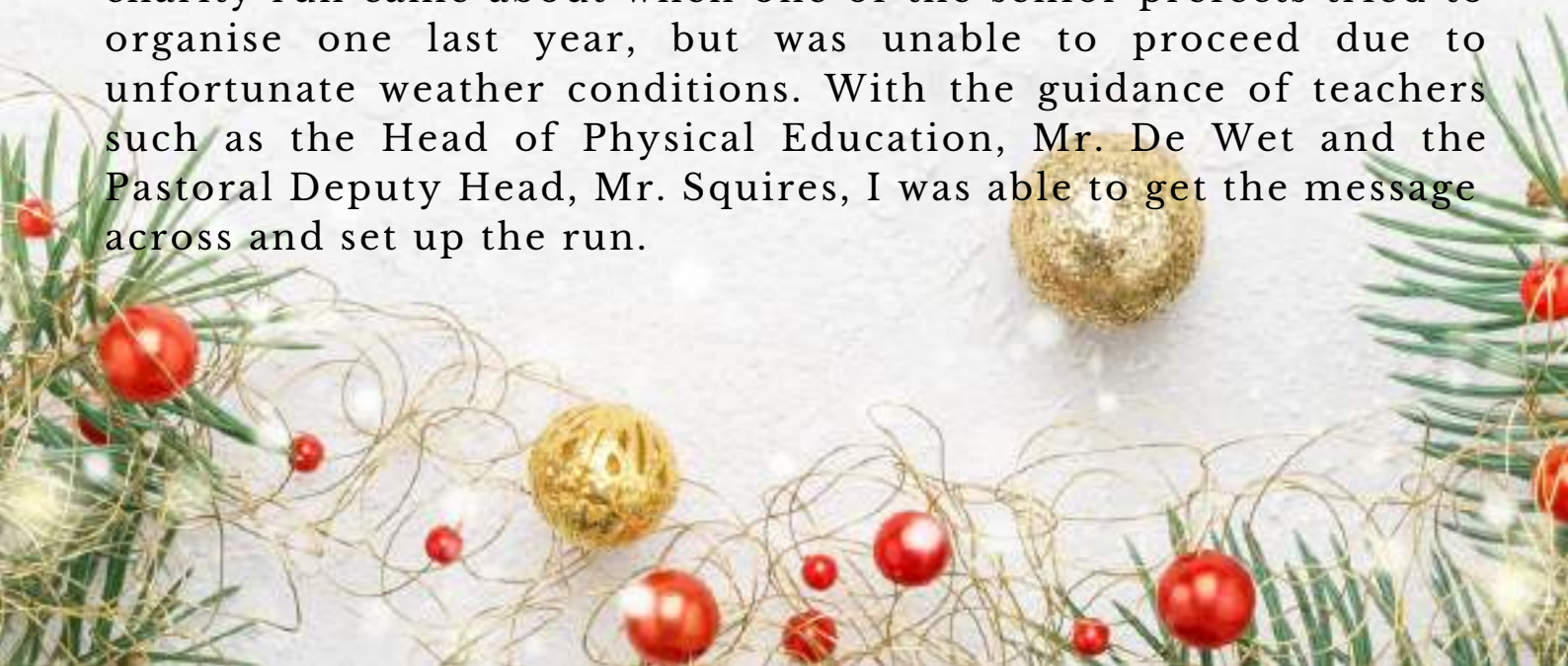
# X'MAS SANTA RUN

*Bernice Tan Huey Shen*

On the 2nd of December of 2021, I was happy to announce that the Christmas Charity Santa run that I organised on campus was successful. I have learnt a lot of skills: organisation, time management, creativity, and nevertheless, the most essential one was communication. The ability to communicate effectively with organisations, teachers and the wonderful team of marshals that I was lucky to have made this run possible, hopeful and a memorable experience to me and many others.

This idea of mine was lingering at the back of my head during the mid-year. With the outbreak of Covid-19 and the inability of me to be vaccinated as I was under the required age, I still dreamt of contributing to healthcare centres without having to volunteer at the location itself. I stumbled across the National Cancer Society of Malaysia (NCSM) while scrolling through the Internet and recognised its wonderful contribution to the underprivileged community, thus, I decided to devise a plan to make a donation.

It was apparent that I could have made a small donation myself, however, I wanted the lovely students and teachers in Epsom to know about this society and the cause they are fighting for: to provide the best holistic care for financially-unstable families who are not able to afford any cancer treatment. The idea of a charity run came about when one of the senior prefects tried to organise one last year, but was unable to proceed due to unfortunate weather conditions. With the guidance of teachers such as the Head of Physical Education, Mr. De Wet and the Pastoral Deputy Head, Mr. Squires, I was able to get the message across and set up the run.





To be frank, it was a stressful day for me. I had an English test to take that will play a big role in my university admissions and the thought of collecting money knowing people will not fully cooperate added burden on my shoulders. The massive weight was lifted when members of the lovely marshal team helped me to collect donations before, during and after the run.

Participants were strongly encouraged to wear outfits which had the colour of red, green or brown to symbolise it was the time of the best month of the year! During the event, there was Christmas music being blasted and some of the team members and I decided to have a mini karaoke session whilst people were running. My favourite song was obviously Frozen because it was the type of song that if you had a bad voice, it still sounded beautiful. My most memorable part was witnessing primary school children singing along with us and the smiles I saw plastering across parents' faces. I owe a huge thank you to the technician, Mr. Shashi, who made this happen.

The total came up to approximately RM 1,300 to be donated solely to the Children's Home of Hope. This was a centre that provided free cancer screenings, treatment procedures and hospitality to stay in the centre for diagnosed children. On behalf of NCSM, they would like to thank Epsom for donating to their cause. Finally, I would like to take an opportunity once more to say thank you to the lovely marshal team who played an enormous part in this charity run.





# ACADEMIC PREFECTS

*Cadence Ong Jing Han & Ong Paul Sherng*

Enrichment and a holistic approach is integral to the provision at Epsom. Despite the limitations imposed upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic, we, as the academic prefects, have successfully conducted a series of academic enrichment programmes for the Epsom School community.

Early of the term, we organised the **Epsom College Science Award (ECSA) 2021**. By the registration deadline, we have received submissions from 48 groups of international participants from 8 different countries including Indonesia, Egypt, Tunisia, Zimbabwe and Morocco. We are delighted to have received 13 entries from our sister school, Epsom College UK. The deadline for submission of documents was 21st November 2021. The judging session and results announcement will take place in February 2022.

To develop confidence in public speaking and the ability to think on the spot under pressure, we introduced "**Clash Of Minds**" for students from KS3 and KS4/5. This represents an interhouse debate competition taking place during key stage assemblies. For the KS3 students, the debate mainly aims to encourage students to speak out and be confident.

Amelia (Crawfurd), Shamita (Crawfurd), Melvern (Carr) and Umair (Carr) were brave enough to be the first group to take the stage and make their case and respond to rebuttals. Rion (Carr), Kohaku (Carr), Angela (Crawfurd) and Yi Ro (Crawfurd) also did a good job on the topic "Should it be compulsory for students to wear school uniforms?".

In the final round, Carr Team A debated for the motion "THB that boys are smarter and stronger than girls" while Crawfurd Team B opposed it. Both teams presented persuasive points and they looked more confident this time. We, as the judges, had a long discussion to decide the winner. And guess what? The result was a **TIE** as both teams have performed equally excellently!



Overall, all of their performance was really impressive and the students who are not participating in the debates show full support to those on the stage. We would like to show our appreciation to Kirsten, Naomi, Manfred and Yves for volunteering to mentor the juniors in the debates.

KS4/5 Clash of Minds took place a week after the KS3 debate started. The debate motions include "What limits should there be on Freedom of Speech?", "Do the benefits of A.I. outweigh the ethical concerns?" and "Is Democracy is the best form of government?".

Students who participated in the debates used a lot of real life examples and statistics as evidence to support their stands. The girl teams outcompeted the boy teams in the first two rounds of the competition. At last, Crawbery won the whole debate despite losing one of the teammates, Sora, who has taken her flight back to Japan. We were particularly impressed by

It has been a very busy term for us to carry out all these academic-related events. We are glad the students have learnt through the process and have benefited from the activities we held. We are happy to have received positive feedbacks from both students and staffs. Please look forward to more enrichment programmes from the academic prefects in the following terms!



# SOCIAL PREFECTS

*Yi Chen Lee & Raihana Remee*

This past term has proved itself to be the busiest term we've had in years! Not only was it academically enriching, but it was also bursting with social events.

As social prefects, we strongly believe in the importance of social events for the student body. School should not only be a place of study, instead, it should also allow students to live their teenage life to the fullest with their peers.

Although this pandemic has hindered our ability to organise several activities, we still managed to successfully host a plethora of SOP-obeying events.

## ONLINE

Since the academic term started online, we had to adapt and plan online socials as well. During this short period, we were able to organise two socials for all the 3 key stages. Firstly, a Key Stage 4 & 5 Movie Night was hosted on a Friday evening. It was a simple and relaxing social that allowed students to let loose after a long tiring week. All they needed to do was log in to the Google Meet call, sit back, and watch the movie together.

Alternatively, considering how talkative and energized the KS3 students are all the time, we decided to give them a more exciting activity. For them, we hosted an online Mini Game Night! As the name states, they played several different online games together, all while talking (or screaming) enthusiastically with each other through a Google Meet call.



## PHYSICAL

We were thrilled to finally be able to host physical socials after long days of staring at each other through a virtual screen. To kick off the fresh start, we hosted Halloween socials for each of the 3 main Key Stages.

The KS4 & 5 Halloween socials were hosted on separate days, but had the same 2 activities; A horror movie and Halloween-themed games occurring simultaneously. Not only do they obey SOP's, but it also promotes choice for each student's personal preference. Furthermore, pizzas, snacks and soft drinks were provided because, what would an event be without refreshments?

Similarly, the KS3 Halloween social also consisted of games, but this time they were organised in rotations for 4 big groups. We owe our thanks to the Year 10 Crawford girls who volunteered and successfully hosted this event together. Once again, we were able to provide pizzas and refreshments for the students, which they all greatly enjoyed.

In the blink of an eye, not long after these Halloween socials, we found Christmas creeping up right around the corner. To contrast the upbeat and intense Halloween socials, the Christmas social was simply a Karaoke night. Thankfully, the Grayling Centre was already coincidentally and professionally equipped with karaoke microphones, courtesy of Mr Pedro! We also need to thank the Business Society who kindly accepted the offer to sell refreshments to the attending students.

Since the social was only within key stages, many students found themselves more relaxed and eager to show off their wonderful singing (and dancing) skills. The nights encompassed many performances from Frozen's soundtracks, typical Christmas carols, to even confession songs that might impress their crush somewhere in the crowd! This continued for both KS4 & KS5 socials, however they bear one crucial difference; Only the Sixth Formers had the opportunity to experience the annual tradition in ECI, Secret Santa!

Finally, despite not directly organising, we have had the opportunity to help incorporate 2 Open Mic nights throughout this term. It was another great event that allowed our gifted college community to showcase their talent to anyone and everyone who wanted to attend!





# ECO COMMITTEE

*Bryan Lin & Taranie Shanker*

The Eco-Committee is one of the latest additions to the school's list of societies. Our aim as the Eco Committee is to raise awareness about the environment and also help reduce the school's carbon footprint. We initiated the school's application to be part of the WWF's Eco-School programme. We have analysed the school's current environmental footprint and we have planned activities that have already been carried out and for the future. Here are some of the projects that we have covered so far:

Our first hands-on project as a committee was starting our own compost pile. Composting would allow us to reduce the amount of food waste produced. We communicated with the catering staff about acquiring vegetable peels and eggshells which they kindly gave to us every Friday. Then our team would bring these materials to our compost bin and layer them appropriately. Even though to some it may not seem like much, we believe that every action would reduce our ecological footprint. Moreover, we decided to educate the prep school students about composting as we believe that learning from a young age is important.

The prep school was excited to learn all about composting. We provided some vegetable peels, dried leaves and soil to make their own compost! But first, before sending them off to the field, we educated them in the classroom by giving them an enticing and informative presentation that was tested at the end of the composting session. The prep school students lined up in a well-ordered line eager to fill their mini compost bin. They were concerned about their containers having holes however, we reminded them that the holes were needed for the compost to work.





We will be starting off the new term by completing an Environmental Review of various areas. If you are interested in joining the Eco Committee, you can join the Ecoteer Club CCA on Saturday. If you have any suggestions for activities we could carry out, feel free to contact Bryan Lim or Taranie.



# BSE SOCIETY

*Lee Jing Yan*

We are a student-led academic society focusing on Business and Economics at Epsom College in Malaysia. Here, all perspectives can be shared without judgment and criticism.

Our aims are to provide a platform for students to venture beyond and broaden their horizons.

## **Fundraising**

With that, we started-up our first business venture – Instant Happiness. With Cafe, Refreshment Bar and Pizza Corner as subsidiaries. It was established on 12th November 2021 with the aim to combine resources to produce services that satisfy consumers' wants and be able to fundraise for charities and the school community.

In one month, we managed to make a net profit of RM964.60 and we decided to donate around 50% of it to charity.

RM450.30 is donated to Malaysian Social Entrepreneur Foundation (MSEF). MSEF is an organization that helps to advocate for increased access to education by providing scholarships for underprivileged children. Other than that, they also had food banks during COVID-19.

30% of our profit is stored in the school fund to provide a budget for future school events that students might be interested in organizing, in which the amount is RM292.60.

### **Epsom Live Talks**

Other than that, our society also collaborated with Mr Pedro to host Epsom Live Talks. During these talks, professionals from the business world share their experiences and give advice to students. Audiences would get to ask questions that they may be wondering about.

Other than that, students also have the chance to interview the guest speakers which can improve their public-speaking skills, ability to be quick-witted and confidence when they decide to step out of their comfort zone and try something new.

The aim of these talks is to give students a direction of their future career path by getting to know the reality of the different career fields.

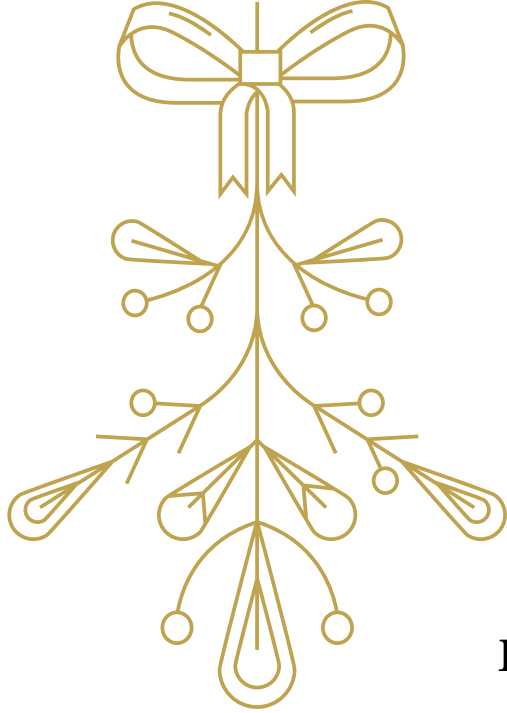
### **Discussion Sessions**

Members of the BSE society can have a chance to research on a topic related to business and economics. Subsequently, they would present their research findings and come up with a few discussion questions, often debatable, for audiences to discuss.

Some of our session titles in term 1 include, “Marketing Techniques”, “How has COVID-19 impacted the e-commerce industry?” and “Korean Wave”.

We also gathered and shared a database of revision resources at the end of term 1 to students. Relating to Business, Economics and Accounting for both IGCSE and A-level. On that note, we would like to end with a quote – “You can only grow if you’re willing to feel awkward and uncomfortable when you try something new.”





**EDITOR**

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