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EPSOM MONTHLY



— *By Epsomians For Epsomians* —

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Foreword

Written by Mr Brown

A very warm welcome to the first edition of Epsom Magazine of the Academic Year 2022/23.

It is my great pleasure and privilege to be asked to provide this foreword.

I would like to open by acknowledging the hard work of Cadence and to thank her for her commitment to the success of our magazine in her role as Editor-in-Chief last year. I would also like to thank Xin Ling as Editor-in-Chief and Molly as Managing Editor for taking this over and am really excited to read this year's issues. The new team leaders were appointed by the previous Editorial Board and we have every confidence that they will continue to build on the work of their seniors and take our magazine to the next level. I also have every faith that the new board of directors; Jenson, Elliot, Keira and Ann Yi will also continue on to ensure and support the magazine's continued success.

This magazine provides a great platform for our school community to showcase the many opportunities and achievements, to share interests and passions both in and beyond the classroom.

I am always so excited to see what our students have produced and hope that you enjoy reading the articles. In this edition we will revisit some of the highlights of last academic year and learn more about how we can all enrich our learning Epsom through our many student-led Societies. We will better understand the Epsom Academic Focus Weeks where our Academic Societies present on particular areas of interest through various activities that they organise and host during the school week. Finally, we will enjoy updates on sporting events, cultural celebrations and festivities as well as our Epsom Live Talks.

We are so very fortunate to have so many self-motivated, organised, determined and scholarly students at Epsom who contribute enormously to our school culture and ethos as well as being an example to us all in this.

Happy Reading!



Mr Matthew Brown
Current Headmaster 2022/2023

EDITORS NOTE — XIN LING GOH

Hello everyone! I hope that all of you are staying safe and well.

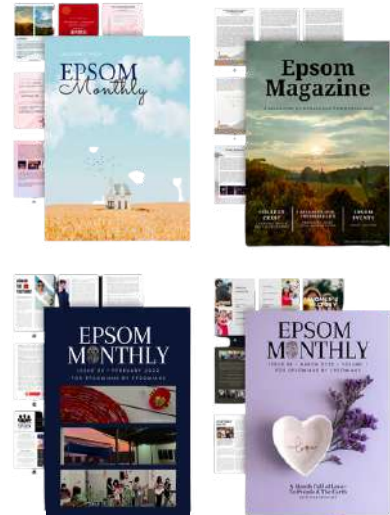
First and foremost, I'd like to express my appreciation and gratitude to Cadence, Jing Han, the previous Editor-in-Chief of the Epsom Monthly, for her efforts in sustaining and growing the Epsom Monthly to where it is now. It was a pleasure to work with her, and I hope to foster a similar productive environment. I'd also like to thank her for giving me this opportunity, and I promise to do my very best to continue to grow and nurture the Epsom Monthly's progression.

This issue will cover a variety of topics, including reminiscing about the previous year, perspectives on current events, and introducing and getting to know some teachers and societies. I hope you enjoy reading this issue, and many thanks to everyone who contributed. Welcome to our Board of Directors, which we appointed after interviews and forms, and please feel free to approach any of us with suggestions or advice. Enjoy!

XIN LING - PRESIDENT / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



together, allowing me to have a great insight and experience, which I hope to continue. As an Art Director and Editor last year, most of the issues published have been crafted and designed by me, including most of the format and the creation of the covers and logos. Aside from my experience with society, I believe that my enthusiasm and positivity qualify me for this position, as I have always been interested in journalism and editorial magazines, which is a great passion of mine and possibly a potential career path. I am currently taking Geography, English Literature and Biology for A-levels and hope to do something Geography related in University. I am also a keen sports player as I am a part of the Netball and Football team to name a few. Besides that, I am also a saxophone player and you may spot me playing in some events through the Studio Orchestra.



XIN LING - PRESIDENT / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Heyhey!! My name is Xin Ling, and I am the President and Editor in Chief of the Epsom Magazine Society / Epsom Monthly! I can't wait to embark on this journey with the team, where I hope to inform, connect, and create a platform for connection and enjoyment. I was appointed Art Director in 2021 and wrote my first article for the "Epsom Newspaper" (disbanded due to the pandemic) when I was in Year 7, 2017! I was fortunate enough to be able to help Cadence with articles last year as we were able to learn and grow the magazine

MOLLY - VICE PRESIDENT / MANAGING EDITOR

Hello, everyone! This is Molly, the vice pres of the Magazine Society! I have been a part of this society since it was founded back in 2021. I love writing about the events and activities taking place around school. Last year, I saw so much energy, enthusiasm and engagement from our Epsomians and they are what make us feel like we are a part of something bigger than a school community. I enjoy working with my friends and this year I am even more excited to be a part of this society and take on the role of vice-pres and the responsibility that comes with it.



I have founded my society as well back in 2021 and so I have quite a bit of experience on how it goes in a society. However, as a Magazine publishing student-led society, there is so much more to learn in this field. Every monthly issue comes with many thrilling articles of our school events but we also face many changes such as deadlines. I am writing this three days past the due date as we speak. Nonetheless, I think this is the fun part about school - we get involved in many activities and societies while trying to finish our prep, studying for exams, practicing for our music lessons and doing sports all at the same time. We could all be in the circus with the way we are juggling all these responsibilities, but I wouldn't choose to do anything else except all those because I love how it is, and I love being with so many new and old friends, teachers and staff. This is what makes Epsom as it is. Here in Epsom Magazine Society, we want others to feel the same way about our school life. We want to enhance our social circle and get to know more of you! As our slogan says: "For Epsomians By Epsomians".



KEIRA - SECRETARY

Hello, my name is Keira, I am in year 12. I am very happy and grateful to have been given the position of secretary in the Epsom Magazine Society. I have always been interested in the magazine concept and wanted to experience how it would be like to 'work' in this field! I am excited to get to know what goes on behind the scenes to create these wonderful issues and also to work with my team. I appreciate the Epsom Magazine Society documenting significant moments in our school life, and giving the Epsom community a space to share their interests. I hope to be able to support this society and be involved in the process of producing some masterpieces! Not that you care about me and my interests but I have been told to introduce myself so I will say I like dogs; I take the subjects: Biology, Chemistry, and English Literature; I am thinking of going down the Science route for my further education. I am ever so grateful to have been given this section for my words! I would like to end my section with a line from Harry Potter: The Philosopher's Stone, the last line of the school song that began the school year 'learn until our brains all rot'. To me, this line is a reminder of the fun of learning ('rot' does not sound too fun I know but) and helps to ease the suffering of school just a little bit more. Let's have a good year everyone! Thank you for your time and have a lovely day.





ELLIOT HO
ART DIRECTOR



Hello, my name is Elliot Ho. I am the Epsom Magazine Society's Art Director. I'm in charge of helping with the magazine's layout, design, and format, so I most likely helped format the magazine you're reading right now. I take three A-Level subjects: chemistry, economics, and biology. Although I'm not particularly good at these subjects, I enjoy learning them because they give me a better understanding of the world around me. I joined this society to gain insight into the inner workings of the school and to voice student opinions that I felt needed to be heard. Another reason I joined this society was that I enjoy meeting new people and learning about their lives.

In my spare time, I usually spend a lot of time watching Formula 1 because I am obsessed with it, but unfortunately, it seems to be all I can talk about with my friends, or if I'm not talking about it, I'm usually thinking about driving a F1 car around a track. But, with my newly appointed position, I hope to help improve the magazine society as I intend to bring unique ideas to the table. So, if you're reading this and have an idea for something we should include in the magazine, please feel free to contact any one of us, or if you just want to talk about Formula One, I'll gladly oblige

Hi! My name is Ann Yi from Year 12, and I am the Associate Editor for the Magazine Society. My main role is to overlook the magazine's editors alongside our Managing Editor. I decided to be part of this society because I have read a few issues of this magazine from the previous academic year, and have enjoyed the diversity and intricacy of content that is offered and will hopefully continue to. It can be confidently said that the Epsom Magazine is an important medium through which the student voice can be heard as much as it is a showcase of the buzzy community here at Epsom, where talents and aspirations are robust. Moreover, by being part of this society, I am determined to hone my skills in leadership and communication alongside the rest of the BoD and challenge not only myself but also the boundaries of what this magazine could become - a persistent and integral force in Epsom. As part of making that happen, I hope that some of my new ideas for the magazine are useful and up to par with its brief but significant history. I hope to contribute beyond my responsibilities and I will put my best foot forward to help the magazine reach its full potential - I believe I should reflect Xin Ling's and Molly's ambitions as the new leaders of the society. On an ending note, I am very excited to be a part of this journey, and I anticipate you to be too!

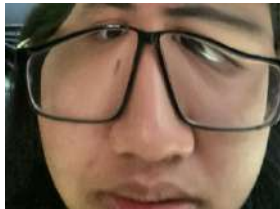


ANN YI
ASSOCIATE
EDITOR



TENGGU MAYA MARKETING

'Ello everyone! My name is Tengku Maya Sari binti Tengku Muhammad Taufik – a mouthful at first glance, I know. But do call me Maya; short, simple, and only two syllables! I'm from Rosebery and am currently in Year 11. Yes, that does mean I am less than a year away from sitting for my IGCSE Examinations. To say I am terrified would be an understatement. Alongside the core subjects, I also take Drama, Geography, and History! I am hugely passionate about Chemistry and Geography, aiming to pursue Environmental Science for my tertiary education.



I'll stop droning on about Academics – here are some things you should know about me! In 2006, I would be born on the first of September at 8.30 A.M – yes, I share the same birthday as one of my all-time favourite artists, Jeon Jung Kook of BTS! If you follow me on Instagram, you would know I love BTS, a K-Pop group from Korea. I am also a huge fan of Harry Styles and One Direction! As a pastime, I enjoy playing the bass guitar, listening to music, watching films, and reading... besides eating and sleeping, of course.

I joined the Magazine Society as Marketing Director to improve my communication and persuasion skills in a team environment. Furthermore, this is an amazing opportunity for me to improve my writing skills and work toward deadlines, thus developing my time management which is an essential skill for any student. Prior to joining Epsom, I was involved in my previous school's – SMK Convent Bukit Nanas – Editorial Board (@cbnmarguerite – check it out on Instagram!) as a School Photographer. Shameless promotion, but do go ahead and find some of my work on that Instagram page! Joining this Magazine Society would be quite reminiscent of my days in CBN.

JENSON COMMUNICATIONS

Hello, my name is Jenson and I am currently in Year 12 and I will be the Head of Communications of the Epsom Magazine Society for this academic year. My main role is to overlook communications (as one might expect) and to ensure that the society as a whole is functioning to its full potential. Aside from this, I will also be working closely with the managing editor to ensure that articles are kept to the highest standards. As a reader of the magazine, I am very excited to fulfil my role as a member on the board of the magazine as I am looking forward to learning what goes on behind the scenes in this society. Personally, I think that the Epsom Magazine is an ingenious idea as it serves as a platform for both students and teachers to express themselves and communicate their thoughts and ideas directly to the school community. Aside from my 'academic' related interests, I enjoy playing the piano in my free time and reading books about the world around me, both fiction and nonfiction. All in all, I would like to thank everyone involved for giving me the opportunity to have a chance to contribute back to the school. Most importantly, thank you (the reader) for continuing to support this magazine, after all, there wouldn't be a magazine without all of you.



LAST YEAR RECAP

2021/22



P.S. the Barbie boots in the drama studio are a must-try.



BOOTS

Interpret it however you may, but this was my state all throughout last year.

IGCSE

As UNBELIEVABLE as it may sound, my most memorable time of last year would be the IGCSE exam season. I've got even closer to my friends and made many strong bonds. You know what they say - you can never break the bonds of a struggling maths class. Well, this is proof.



2021/2022 DRAMA STUDENTS

I define this as my "comfort". I can be myself around them, knowing they won't judge me. They are 90% of the reason I got through last year. Facing many challenges and having to adapt to a changed environment, it was not easy for me to go through the first half of last year. I want to thank them (my DRAMA-tic friends) for supporting me throughout and I hope they know how much they mean to me. Happy memories <33

LAST YEAR RECAP 2021/22



CLASSES

Above is a picture of my Geography class for Year 11. Despite the fact that we were unable to go on typical field trips as required by our curriculum due to covid, we were able to improvise and had the best time (100% true, definitely, best time of our lives) applying our geography skills through school and mercato-based activities. Covid-19 really made me miss and appreciate the physical environment of classes as with classmates around physically for most of the previous academic year, it allowed us to have fun, converse, learn, and stress collectively over upcoming exams together.



FRIENDS

People who have supported and stuck with me. Although I've thus far described Year 11 as being filled with joy and laughter; Year 11 was an extremely tough year for me, from lockdowns to actual IGCSE exams, it was hectic. I am extremely appreciative of the people I have met in Epsom, for whom I am extremely grateful for. Attached is a photo of Keira and Hitesh, who I consider to be two of my closest friends, however, this comment and expression of gratitude is not limited to them but to everyone else who has impacted my life positively as well.



ROSEBERY

Winners of House Drama 2021/2022. Not only was this event memorable due to our (well-deserved) victory, but I also had the opportunity to host it (with my fellow drama IGCSE students!!) and create unforgettable memories with the seniors throughout. Being able to watch others perform and I have always participated in and enjoyed House events, as they give us a wonderful opportunity to collaborate and demonstrate our house spirit. Togetherness during times of stress, mutual support during times of disappointment, and celebration of our actions and small victories.

in order of appearance : Sports, Humanities, Business and Economics, Medical, Magazine



A Short History of the BSE Society

Written by Aisha



The Business and Economics Society (originally named the Business Society) was founded by Jing Yan on April 29th, 2021. The team was a small student body that ranged from Year 13 all the way to Year 8. I was originally brought on to the team as one of their designers alongside Diana. My first duties were to design posters, sketch up logos and present discussion sessions.

Starting of the new academic term, the BSE Society welcomed some new faces onto the team. A new addition to the BSE lineup were "live talks" where students interviewed successful business entrepreneurs. This was an excellent introduction for the team to work on their interviewing and public speaking skills while also being an informative and district experience for anyone watching.



Freshly made coffee, milo, cookies and many other snacks were sold in the Instant Happiness Cafe. All the supplies and finances are managed by students making it a student reliant team effort. This cafe proved to be a huge success and brought in many more students onto the team.

This success led to a huge profit - RM 964.60 in fact, with RM 450 of that being donated to charity and the remaining reimbursed into the society or saved into the BSE Society Foundation to fund other students and societies to host their events.



In between managing a business and live talks, the BSE Society also acts as a student-led caterer for events other societies are hosting. We have also done plenty of collaborations with societies and prefects like the Violet Society, the Environment Society, Social Prefects and many more.

The BSE Society once again proved to be a conglomerate business by selling T-shirts, partially sponsored by a local clothes manufacturing company. Merchandise for a school society may sound a bit strange but the T-shirts sold out quickly and in the evenings there is a

very high likelihood you can see someone wearing one of them around. There is really no limit to what we will do next.

Now in the 2022-2023 term, there are already plans for a second hand shop venture. Not to mention, the BSE Society would definitely not be here without the fantastic work of the team and you can really tell that they care and want to keep improving it.

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported our business including the teachers and of course our students. We will continue to strive to greater heights and keep adding to the culture at Epsom.

The Comfort Society

Written by Kaith (Co-ordinator)



Welcome to the Comfort Society! This society was created in the academic year 2021-2022 with an aim to support the students' well-being. The board of directors are Molly (Coordinator/ President), Kaith (Co-coordinator), Diana (creative director/ designer) and last but not least, Teja (PR/ Communications).

The Comfort Society has held several sessions and talks in the Grayling Centre in the previous academic year and the topics vary from 'Homesickness' to 'Stress-Eating'. Molly (President) gave a session on 'Stress-eating' and each session elaborates the key features of the topic being covered. During times when Covid-19 was quite popular, Kaith (Co-coordinator) held a session with the title 'Find your Solace in Solitude' which was mainly about finding your comfort in quarantine. The society hopes the audience and the listeners are able to cope with the stress when being quarantined or isolated. These are the highlights of the Comfort Society last year.

Fast forward to the academic year 2022-2023, the Comfort Society leads a CCA (student-led CCA) every Saturday mornings where the members of the CCA and the Society do amusing and interesting activities such as 'Origami', 'Making fruit juice' and several others while icebreaking and opening up to each other about whatever is on their minds. The purpose of this CCA is for students to be able to express themselves and for them to know that there are people available to support their well-being whenever help is needed. The Comfort Society aims to make sure students feel more comfortable being here at Epsom College in Malaysia be it near or far from home. Future plans also include holding more interesting sessions and other social events. The Society also plans to collaborate with the Sports Society, Business Society and KS4 Social Prefects to accomplish their goals in the near future.

To commemorate the World's Mental Health Day on the 10th of October, the Society plans to create a Comfort Week, from Monday to Friday. Social events are most likely to be held along with the help from the KS4 Social Prefects. This is a chance for Epsomians to take a break from whatever stress they might be having, by tagging along with the activities the Society plans for them! The Comfort Society is the definition of what it is to be altruistic, caring and empathetic. The Board of Directors aim to support the students' well-being and truly expect more members to hop on board with them as they dive into many upcoming adventures in the near future.

The Violet Society

Written by Ann Yi

Edited by Board of Directors

Hello everyone! We are a student-founded, student-led society that focuses on bringing attention to gender-related issues with fundraisers and awareness campaigns, as well as encouraging open discussions about interesting topics while exploring them through the lens of gender and sexuality. We consider different perspectives and are always eager to learn more - we'd like to think that oftentimes we learn more from our audience than they do us!

The Board of Directors consist of 5 Year 12s, who are Pei Wen, Hitesh, Xin Ling, Jing Yan, and Ann Yi. We have been running the society together for 2 years, and have built a sturdy foundation on which hopefully more fulfilling achievements are able to stand. Please don't hesitate to approach us if you have any questions or concerns about the society!

For the last academic year we had the opportunity to host a variety of sessions and events, ranging from talking about kitchen culture to collaborating with the BSE Society for Women's History Month - we had been through a lot of trial and error, and from that we've grown stronger and more ready for what this year is going to bring us.

This year, our aim is to have more people get involved in what we do (we're recruiting members!) so we can have more diversity in our session content as well as host events on a bigger scale. We are passionate about what we do and are ambitious to achieve more, so join us (the QR code for the membership form is available below)! We also want to thank those who have already applied as a member during the society fair held on the 7th and 8th of September - we look forward to working with you!

WELCOME TO THE VIOLET SOCIETY!

MEMBERSHIP PERKS!

- Host **sessions** for topics of your interest that are related to gender (politics)
- Work together to manage and organize **events** (eg. Fundraising, Socials, Debates, etc.) and have the opportunity to carry out your own
- Liven up our **website** with your creative ideas
- Share infographics, pictures or any interesting **content** on our Instagram
- Join behind-the-scenes **discussions** with the founding board members

CONTACT US | JOIN NOW!

IG: @violetsocj
violetsocietypsom.notion.site

Speaking about future events, at the time of writing this article, we are scheduled to have another collaboration with the BSE Society for BSE Week alongside other societies regarding different topics. For the Violet Society's session, we are going to talk about ethics, and their relationship with the recent wave of the "girlboss" marketing agenda that has the focus of promoting empowerment, self-love, and confidence - at least as multimillion corporations put it.

We are also considering doing sessions on parenthood, criminality, religion, performative politics, social media algorithms, and much more. If you think you have a good idea for a session, let us know! On that note, we hope you look forward to our growth this year. Have a great week ahead!

The Medical Society

Written by Tiffany



A warm welcome to all, we are the Medical Review Society. Here, we provide opportunities for students to further explore their interests in various fields of Medicine.

In the past academic year, we have created numerous informative materials such as podcasts, journals, presentations. This has enabled Epsom students to pick up research and journal writing skills, as well

as boost their confidence through hosting events and presentations. From time to time, we would also organise peer discussions on medical ethics surrounding topics such as abortion, animal testing, stem cells, and so on.

We have had the privilege of inviting a specialist, Dr Diana Mohd Shah, to give us more insight into organ transplantation and donation in Malaysia. Moreover, we aid students in their university application to medical schools by holding webinars and in-person sessions. In the past, a few members of the society introduced an Application Support for Medical School project. Every week, presentations would be given on different aspects of the application process, such as admissions test, medical ethics, interview tips, and etc.

In the near future, we will be hosting various exciting events to impart medical knowledge and raise awareness on certain medical issues that should not be overlooked. All are welcome to take part in the events, or even join this society! Currently, we are still in the process of recruiting members. If you are interested, feel free to email medicalreview@epsomcollege.edu.my to submit your application. Thank you, and we look forward to working with you this academic year.

With warmest regards,

The Medical Review Society 2022-2023.

The ScienZ Society

Written by Thaaranniyah, Elizabeth & Jing Xean

We, in the ScienZ Society, are a community of students who share a passion for discovering different aspects of Science. This society provides us a platform to present our findings and interests to one another within the school.



What have we done? Here are some brief descriptions of our past events:

'Hibernation' was delivered by our leaders: Jing Xean and Thaaranniyah, where they discussed common misconceptions and how the animal survives while hibernating. Towards the end was a recap quiz, with Mr Ali and Jing Yan as our winners! Next was a collaboration with the Violet Society to discuss the science and ethics of abortion. We explained the medical procedures that happen during an abortion, as well as the vast potential of stem cells.

We took a look at a wide array of colours seen in nature with the presentation: 'Life in Colour' hosted by two of our core members - Keira and Darshinie. They explored as to why these colours can be seen in animals and explored how animals like chameleons camouflage.

Do you like listening to music? Did you know that music can be therapeutic? Jing Yan, our official member, orchestrated a presentation about 'Music Therapy' where she showed how it's being used for treatment and went into scientific details on how it affects the brain.

Next, we travelled to space with Ammar and Andy, who guided us through the history of astronomy and the possibility of future human travel into the vast universe. Several interesting concepts such as the Fermi Paradox, the Dyson Sphere and terraforming planets were covered within their sessions.



and terraforming planets were covered within their sessions.

But there's more! Another collaboration was with the Environment Society. In 'Don't waste aluminium foil', Jeng Xin alongside Diana, introduced the environmental issues and health concerns caused by aluminium. Audiences, including the teachers that joined us, were surprised by how despite the many available alternatives for aluminium out there (e.g. Cedar Wraps, Silicone baking mats etc), few alterations of buying and consuming habits were carried out.

Recently, as part of the BSE Week, we discussed the availability of chemotherapy and how exactly it works in the session titled 'Chemotherapy: How does it work?' This was led by our official members Chantelle and Jeng Xin, who explained formation, side effects and availability of chemotherapy in Malaysia. We ended with a relatively engaging discussion where not only the scientific and business aspects were discussed, some different cultural beliefs were shared, as well.

Likewise other Epsom Societies, the ScienZ Society is ready to handover to a new, well-deserved core team. But before we leave, we hosted one last session - our very first experiment-based session titled 'Can We Eat Water?'. Here, we successfully made bubbles of water! Our demonstration went really successfully and we loved the audience participation.



Being able to bring awareness of reducing the use of plastic bottles and explaining the science behind this experiment came across clearly and we hoped everyone enjoyed our presentation, at the same time, learnt something new!

Our final gathering was to fully hand it over to the new core team: Keira, Leo, Minsol, Xin Ling, Everest and Elisa! We are sure they'll do an amazing job and work their best to put out new ideas and events they have planned. We hope the same amount of enthusiasm and support will be shown to them, just like it was for us :)

We would also like to sincerely thank the ScienZ Core Team 2021/22 (Jing Xean, Thaaranayah, Keira, Elizabeth, Darshinie and Khai Yue) and all our Official Members, from the bottom of our heart. Thank you for your hard work and dedication towards our society, we wouldn't have done this much without every single one of you!



Thank you and we'll see you soon!

Best wishes,

The ScienZ Society 2021/22.

Instagram: @epsomscienzociety

Website



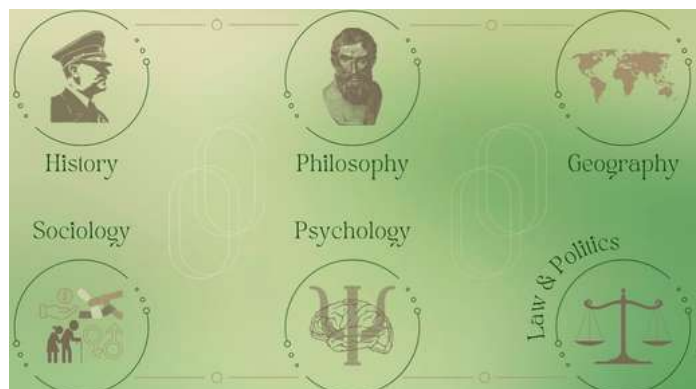
The Humanities Society

Written by Alicia



The Humanities Society aspires to provide a platform for discussions on human issues, where everyone’s views are respected and acknowledged. Last year the Humanities Society held sessions centering around the Russian-Ukraine dispute, the morals of war, communist ideology, and we even collaborated with Molly to discuss the atrocities happening in Myanmar led by the military junta. Our aim is to facilitate debates, discussions and presentations on relevant and critical issues that we may not

learn within our current syllabus, and provide an environment safe enough to encourage others to develop their own opinions on current issues, whilst rationally justifying them - no matter how controversial, we intend to approach matters through an unbiased and neutral lens to open up the floor for others to voice their opinions/concerns. Essentially, healthy, mature conversations. On a lighter note, we’re also planning on doing lighthearted and enriching topics, such as the twisted mind of Sigmund Freud. We’ve recently had our first session of the academic year hosted by Teja in Year 12, who’s our project manager: her session focused on the new ‘Anti-Sexual Harassment’ bill that Malaysia just introduced. Many students came to support, learn and contribute to the talk, and we hope that our future endeavors will have the same impact!



The Sports Society

Written by Nanako

The Sports Society is a group of sport-loving students working together to organize sport-related events and presentations.

Our goals for this academic year are to improve students' experience with sports in Epsom, to create opportunities for students to try out new sports, and bring people together with sports. We hope to organize Inter House competitions, fixtures, fundraising events, and more, with the help of the PE department. We aim to organize events that are made for both people who are solely interested in sports, and for our athletes who play competitively.

In our society, we encourage practicing equality and leadership skills, and aim to be the examples by showing good sports(wo)manship and support for everyone.

Last academic year, the Sports Society organized and assisted a few events such as the Staff vs Students Volleyball Competition, Prep School Sports Day, and a Staff vs Y13 Students Netball Competition.

It was a major success (from the feedback we received), as both the players and audience had fun. We have an event coming up which is the Inter House Volleyball Competition for KS4 and 5, happening during the first week of October during Games. We hope that many people can participate, and that it will raise House spirit!!

Our society has a few other events in mind such as a Halloween Fun Run (a charity/fundraising event), Senior Sports Day, and an Athletes Appreciation Ceremony at the end of the school year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email the Sports Society email (sportsoc@epsomschool.com) or the Heads of the Sports Society, Nanako (nanako.dob24@epsomcollege.edu.my) and Youngmok (youngmok.kim@epsomcollege.edu.my)

We hope you enjoy and look forward to the things we plan this year!

Sincerely,
The Sports Society



Volleyball
Staff v. Students
2021/2022

BSE WEEK

in order of appearance : Presentations, Collabs : Comfort, Magazine, Instant Happiness Cafe, Collabs : ScienZ, Presentation & Violet



House Football Experience between Crawfurd and Rosebery.

31/08/2022

Laekeisya Rao (Kei), Crawfurd Year 12

On the 1st of September 2022, Crawfurd and Rosebery had a House Football match that I participated in. It was an amazing experience in the first week that I had joined Epsom. On that day,

I gained friendships that I am extremely fortunate to have. Laughter and happiness among my teammates as well as making friends from the opposing team were some of the things that I vividly remember. I feel that the House Football match had a big impact on most of the new girls as it was a chance for us to broaden the scope of our relationships whilst allowing us to showcase our skills. I am overjoyed that the event was organised and believe house events should continue to take place as it benefits everyone involved.

Dana Sufiya Shahril Nizam, Rosebery Year 7

So... House Football. The term had just started, and everyone was still trying to adjust to new systems and routines. Despite this, We had House Football right around the corner...

After school, I returned to the house and decided to relax in the common room until I heard some seniors talking about the 'Interhouse football competition', and that today was the practice. After that, I started making my way to the 4G pitch wearing borrowed shoes due to my lack of preparation. The practice matches were pretty calm and it was pretty obvious that some people didn't pose any type of interest in the match - .

However, the actual matches were quite fun. We were separated into two groups - seniors in year 10 and above, and juniors in year 9 and below. Being put into Year 9 and below, I met a few people who later became close friends. When we first started the match, it progressed normally - we went back and forth with Crawfurd. It was the opposite of a one-sided match. The most interesting part was that despite the efforts of everyone, not one single person scored a goal. It was a tie.

I also noticed that someone on the Crawfurd side 'carried' the offense. They were one of the only people who was able to run to the other side, and made it. Now I might be a bit biased towards Rosebery, but I would say our defense was pretty strong.

All in all, the competition had interesting, trying, and uneventful parts. If it was an Uber ride, I would rate it a 4.5.

House Football Experience between Propert and Granville.

31/08/2022

Tom Whitney, Propert Year 12

During the first week of the new school year, Epsom hosted their annual House Football competition, with Propert and Granville battling fiercely to be crowned the best boy footballing house.

The first game between the teams was the Y10 and Y11 boys, an end to end entertaining affair which ended up finishing 2-0 to Propert. Aisy, y11, opened the scoring at the end of the first half after a miscalculated corner which ended up in the Granville net, but nevertheless, spectators and players wearing blue celebrated like it was intended, which set up the second half well, with everything still to play for. Similar to the first half, both teams started slow with neither team entirely establishing dominance or grabbing the game by the scruff of the neck, and the ball frequently changing hands. Towards the end of the game everyone was starting to feel it, with all the lads who have given it their all starting to feel the full effect of the Malaysian heat and all the running they had done starting to catch up with them. This led to Propert attacking the Granville final third heavily, and all this persistence led to a lovely solo goal from Jack from Year 10 taking the ball past a couple Granville defenders and slotting the ball neatly into the bottom corner, sealing the win for the Propert y10 and y11s.

The second game which took place was played by the y12 and y13s, a game which Propert also won with 1-0, which means that for another year they are the kings of Inter-House football. Propert yet again starting out on the front foot, keeping the game very much in the Granville half, but not amounting to much, that is, up until the stroke of half time when Jaydn, y12, headed home the ball from a corner kick. The tie began to lose its pace after this point, with the scoring stopping there. The Granville cohort had some good chances to level the game throughout the second half, as Propert legs began to tire but none of them would amount to anything. The only other notable highlight would be the chance Sena, y13 had where he received the ball and only had the goalkeeper to beat, yet a bobble from the grass meant his connection with the ball wouldn't come off as cleanly as he would have liked and the ball ended up being sliced over the bar - despite this the game would remain as is, as Propert tried their best to run the clock down, and did so effectively. There were celebrations all round after the final whistle, and the first House Competition of the academic year rounded off nicely. Everyone shook hands and the winners were courteous in victory and the losers were courteous in defeat, and everyone involved enjoyed themselves.

The Language Department held a Language Week, and one of the events held was an International Open Mic, which they held alongside the international prefects, as students got to perform in various languages.



We opened up a section of this magazine for teachers to participate and allow for us readers to get to know them better!

These were the questions that we have provided them, as they each choose three to answer!

1. *If there was ever, what was a small lie you've told to anyone in the last academic year?*
2. *If you could do something differently from last year what would it be?*
3. *What do you hope to achieve in the first month back? (Could be something as small as giving a huge assignment to your students!)*
4. *What's your go-to meal?*
5. *What's your pet peeve?*

Miss Aishah, Biology Teacher

2. If you could do something differently from last year what would it be?

I was really tough on myself last year with what I thought were standards I had to meet as a teacher, and everytime I felt that I failed (which was very often) I would get quite upset with myself. It made teaching harder than it already was. This year, I have decided to always make a conscious effort to be much easier on myself and to 'go more with the flow' so to speak. I am human and I am still learning, and I should give myself the chance to grow at my own pace, just as I do for my students. Being more liberal with sharing cat photos with my tutees is another change I have embraced, it is nice to share the serotonin.

3. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back?

Be able to drive from my new offsite apartment to school and back without the help of Google Maps.

4. What's your go-to meal?

Chicken nuggets and a cheesy omelette, with Thai chilli sauce dip, perhaps with a side of sliced apples.

Mr David Setiabudi, Computer Science, Art & DT

1. If there was ever, what was a small lie you told to anyone in the last academic year?

Computer Science is a super duper easy subject :D ha...ha...ha...

2. If you could do something differently from last year what would it be?

Asking the students to write down when I explained the subject.

This will make the diligent students become better.

Better learning and fun experience, this time I have prepared better slides.

3. What's your go-to meal?

Everything that my wife cooks are the best.

Ms Carden-Brown, Director of Admissions , Higher Education Assistant Headteacher

3. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back? (Could be something as small as giving a huge assignment to your students!)

Ensure that all our students and staff are happy at Epsom!

4. What's your go-to meal?

Apple pie

5. What's your pet peeve?

Sniffing.

Ms Archibald, Head of Mathematics

3. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back?

Last time I worked at Epsom (2018-2020), I played for an Australian football team and we won the Asian Championships 2019 in Thailand. Since I have been back, I have rejoined the team and the Asian Champs are coming up again. I hope to achieve the same feat and retain our title! Inside school, I hope to help inspire more girls to take up sports and keep fit.

4. What's your go-to meal?

Definitely a spicy curry (even Malaysian spice) with roti or cheesy, garlic naan bread. No hesitation.

5. What's your pet peeve?

The way that socks and teaspoons always go missing. Where do they go?

Mr Dean Jones, HMM Granville House

2. If you could do something differently from last year what would it be?

I would like to travel a little more. Covid has kept our doors closed but there is a whole wide world to explore!

3. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back? (Could be something as small as giving a huge assignment to your students!)

I hope to get back on plan with all of my personal targets - the summer holiday was a great opportunity to catch up with family and friends but I didn't do nearly enough exercise or study.

4. What's your go-to meal?

I love eggs in whichever way they are prepared - my go-to meal is poached eggs on toast with a little salt and pepper (and salmon and cress and avocado and...).

Ms Garnett, EAL/Drama Teacher & Carr House HMM

3. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back? (Could be something as small as giving a huge assignment to your students!)

To make sure all the Carr boys feel happy and at home in Carr House. To make sure my lessons are exciting and full of learning and to have fun as much as possible!

4. What's your go-to meal?

Biscuits and cheese

5. What's your pet peeve?

When something is not in the right place, I like order and for everything to be in its right place.

Ms Kate Fowler,***Assistant Headteacher Pastoral/HMM Propert House/Geography Teacher***

3. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back? (Could be something as small as giving a huge assignment to your students!)

Learn all the students' names in my classes and in Propert. Also achieve balance between the boarding house and my family life

4. What's your go-to meal?

Spaghetti bolognese

5. What's your pet peeve?

Noisy eating and lateness

Mr Pedro, Assistant Headteacher, Senior School, Head of Business, Economics

1. If there was ever, what was a small lie you've told to anyone in the last academic year?

Assuring Sixth Formers that EPQ would be simple and easy!

2. What do you hope to achieve in the first month back? (Could be something as small as giving a huge assignment to your students!)

Lots of smiles in the Sixth Form.

3. What's your go-to meal?

Bak Kut Teh

The Day They Shouted “Merdeka!”

Written by Maya

The Start Of A Fundamental Flaw In Malaysian Politics

August 31st, 1957. Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur. To a crowd of over 20,000, Malaya's first Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, would shout "Merdeka!" seven times as a rallying cry.

This image remains so vividly etched into the hearts of all Malaysians across time as it monumentally marked the freedom of our people. The echoing cheers of “Merdeka!” – meaning ‘Independence’ in Malay – would signify the end of the British protectorate of Malaya. It was then followed by the Islamic call to prayer, the raising of the Jalur Gemilang (Malaysian flag), with the national anthem, Negaraku (Motherland), playing – for the first time ever – in the background.

It would be less than a decade later that the Federation of Malaya see another momentous day in its history: September 16th, 1963. The world would see a united Federation of Malaya, Singapore, Sarawak, and North Borneo (Sabah) form Malaysia. This merger was the brainchild of then-Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj for closer political and economic cooperation.

Personally, eight years of national education meant eight years of learning and relearning the Merdeka Day and Malaysia Day stories. Especially as a Malaysian, I could never get bored of these because they are partially the reason I exist. It is the reason my grandparents met, it is the reason I have the friends I do. Love for whatever surrounded me is, in part, love for the soil I spill blood upon. I could never be more grateful to Malaysia’s forefathers who fought tooth and nail to achieve our collective liberation. At a young age, I had made it crucial to myself that, until my last breath, I would strive to do all I could to honour their efforts.

Henceforth, I jumped at the opportunity of being selected by the Modern Foreign Language Department to present a brief history of Merdeka Day and Malaysia Day to the Epsom Community. The ultimate aim of this presentation was to enlighten our college community on the significance and history of celebrating Merdeka Day and Malaysia Day for our nation.

I’ll confess that it had been quite a while since I revised the road to Malaysia’s Independence. Nonetheless, upon doing further self-research for the presentation, I was unaware of how much more I would come to appreciate the hardships faced by Tunku Abdul Rahman when he and the Delegates of the Merdeka Mission negotiated the Independence of Malaya in London in 1956.

It must be said that I was informed quite last-minute about preparing this presentation. So, after tireless days of preparation and back-and-forth requests from teachers, the presentation was finally complete! Alongside my presentation, there would be a variety of performances by staff and students: a remake of the first ever Merdeka cheer by Tunku Abdul Rahman led by Teja (Year 12), a collective serenade of the patriotic song ‘Jalur Gemilang’, and Dato’ Sudirman Arshad’s ‘Warisan’ that was interpreted by Hitesh (Year 12) and Teja.

In my opinion, the event went better than expected! The feedback was positive and it was a worthwhile experience for everyone present as we transported back to the start of something glorious in 1957.

*The views expressed from this point forward are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of Epsom Magazine or Epsom School itself.

Taking on this job, however, made me realise something.

Today, as a nation, we are more polarised than ever; it pained me a great deal to accept that. Malaysia – in 1963 – was born as a new nation out of earnestness and tremendous goodwill with the ultimate aim of prosperity. Yet, as we proudly declare that we are a warm, hospitable people of diversity, our nation is troubled with terrible prejudices, the chasms of which are evident as our political landscape remains racially charged and corrupt.

In August, former-Prime Minister Najib Razak was ordered to begin a 12-year prison sentence after upholding a guilty conviction on charges related to the multi-billion dollar graft scandal of state fund 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB). Later, in September, the Religious Affairs Minister, Idris Ahmad, would question whether Lim Guan Eng, Chairman of the Democratic Action Party (DAP), was “deliberately fanning the flames of racism and widening the religious divide by inciting non-Muslims to shun the beliefs practised by Muslims.” This was after Guan Eng commented on Ahmad’s insistence that an alleged victim of sexual assault who went public with her claim, should have just reported it to the police, insinuating that the Minister didn’t bring any value to his job “apart from threatening national unity and disrupting religious harmony.”

But aren’t all Malaysians equal in a multi-ethnic nation? Shouldn’t our leaders and politicians vitalise for our very survival to forge an overarching unity? Or, are some Malaysians – as George Orwell sinisterly wrote in ‘Animal Farm’ – “more equal than others”?

Shankar R. Santhiram wrote in an article for Free Malaysia Today that “When the foundation of political leadership in our country is derived from a complex race-based system, we cannot expect our politicians to shift away from this entrenched philosophy. They will continually scheme as they have an irresistible incentive to play up racial differences, rather than to work at narrowing the gap. Consequently, many of our leaders don’t focus on strengthening the ties that bind and unite us. Instead, they use our innate prejudices to enhance interracial differences to win power.”

According to Santhiram, these inherent prejudices stem from fear: “We are all uncomfortable with ambiguity and want to make quick and firm decisions about things. But when we do this, we are also prone to making sweeping prejudicial statements about others... this is the narrative that we operate on, in Malaysia. People assume that as a category, Malays, Chinese, Indians, Sabahans, Sarawakians or foreigners behave in certain, specific ways. We will, at least in our mind, say that this group of people are lazy, that group is money-minded, or yet another group are all argumentative drunkards. The ‘cataloguing’ is simple. But it is from here that all our false racial stereotypes come from.”

If so, why don't our leaders and politicians encourage us to adopt a different mindset, rationalising the bigger picture?

It is because they actively proliferate these prejudices through various policies and institutionalised preferential treatment. This is a fact as clear as day, yet we cannot expect them to change, because race is the very platform from which they gain their power to lead.

Thus, it is us – as a people – who should spark this change. It is up to us to reduce our propensity to stereotype others if we wish to improve our society and ensure the longevity of Malaysia. We must acknowledge that we coexist with people from many racial and ethnic backgrounds, with various cultural and religious upbringings. We must learn to consciously focus only on what we have in common with one another. We will only begin to see each other as fellow Malaysians – not simply as Malays, Chinese, Indians, Ibans, Kadazans, Dusuns, Muruts, Kelabits, and so on – when we see commonality amongst ourselves. As a member of the Malaysian youth, I can no longer rely on politicians to speak out against unfairness that is motivated by bias on their own accord – why would they refuse something they benefit from? This is why we need to be compelled to do so ourselves.

When we can truly identify our prejudices, and stop our inherent, indoctrinated racism from prevailing, only then can a better Malaysia be seen.

PICTURES OF THE ASSEMBLY



Malaysia Day and Merdeka Day Assembly. Performances, Presentations, Speeches, Dances and Singing.



House Volleyball

Written by Nanako

The Sports Society organized an Interhouse Volleyball competition in the first week of October. We wanted to start off the year with it as it was a highly requested and encouraged event.

There were 2 teams for each house, one team from KS4 and one team from KS5. The event took place on the 4th of October for KS4, and the 6th of October for KS5. Despite having little amount of time to practice, everyone showed an amazing effort and results. We could see that students have managed to show well coordinated teamwork. Nevertheless, it was nice to see pupils in the same team cheering, encouraging and supporting each other.

For both KS4 and KS5, Propert showed excellent performance and teamwork, surpassing expectations by far. Both KS4 teams from the girls and boys were very fair, and it was a tough competition as both teams went head to head with each other and were striving to win.

Thank you so much to the players who represented their houses and played wonderfully, the audience who were there to support, the students who were there to take pictures and keep track of the scores, and most importantly, the PE department for their assistance and refereeing.

With it being October, we welcome Breast Cancer Awareness month! As service prefects are fundraising for National Cancer Society Malaysia (NCSM), getting donations from non-uniforms, art and ribbons



- PINK DAY / BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS -

Epsom Live Talk : Tan Sri Tommy Thomas

21/09/2022 - Cebelle & Lynn

On the 21st of September, we were immensely honoured to be granted the opportunity to interview Tan Sri Tommy Thomas - the former Attorney General of Malaysia. Both of us have learned much from the experience, whether that be talking to Tan Sri or the journey of being a moderator.

Our talk with Mr Thomas covered a wide range of subjects - From his experience studying in the UK to his opinions on financial institutions and his involvement in the legal industry. For us, not only was it interesting to hear about his views on such issues, but it also triggered more thinking. Tan Sri Thomas, a veteran in Malaysia's political and economic sphere, provided a different perspective on issues we may have never known or thought about. What impressed me the most was his ideas on Financial Institutions. I would have never thought that saving financial institutions was what gave them the confidence to act recklessly. It was even surprising that he answered without disguises. Knowing his view on the prospect of combating corruption is in such negative, we are further motivated to outlook future improvements, for some of us, may or may not, take a more active role.

Even though we thought our questions were critical, the crowd was sharper than both of us combined. Regardless, we're glad to have such an engaging audience for our talk. We've had questions ranging from the appropriateness of capital punishment in Malaysia to discussions about current affairs that may shape Malaysia's future. Both of us are proud to say that we've both had members of the audience come to us, saying that the talk was inspiring for them. Once again, we are incredibly grateful for this opportunity, and we look forward to attending more Epsom Live Talks lined up this term.

Best wishes,

Cebelle and Lynn





- EPSOM LIVE TALK - TAN SRI TOMMY THOMAS -

Epsom Live Talk : Mr. Vanu Gopala Menon

29/09/2022 - Hitesh & Ann Yi

Last week, I had the pleasure of moderating a Live Talk with Mr Vanu Gopala Menon in the Grayling Centre. Being the High Commissioner of Singapore to Malaysia, previous Representative of Singapore to the UN, Mr Menon carries a great deal of responsibility and experience with him. Almost 4 decades of exposure to the field of politics and international affairs, he informed us of the intricacies that occur in the complex world of governmental affairs; from his experience of being in the UN, to the large scale of global corruption.

Our moderators Ann Yi (Y12), and myself, Hitesh (Y12) also conversed about his transition from Business Administration at the National University of Singapore, to the highly prestigious London School of Economics (LSE), in which he obtained a Masters Degree in International Affairs. Mr Menon shares with us his greatest challenges when it comes to carrying a role such as the High Commissioner, and the deep rooted relationship that exists between Malaysia and Singapore. It was a captivating and enthralling encounter for all those who attended, and a great honour for us to be able to speak with him.

Written by : Hitesh



- EPSOM LIVE TALK - MR. VANU
GOPALA MENON -

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