

TRUE NORTH



North London
Collegiate School
| Singapore |



International Community
Compassionate Caring Collaborative
Ambitious Inclusive
Resilient Purposeful
Confident

GALA

year celebration

Reflective Aspirational Curious
Caring Kind Resilient
Scholarly Nurturing
Principled
Respectful
Collaborative

Scholarly
Confident
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Kind
Ambitious
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Purposeful
Caring
Community

SATURDAY 9 MAY / 6:30PM ONWARDS

Scan here



THE GLASSHOUSE
ANDAZ, 5 FRASER ST, 189354

\$275 PP (WITH ALCOHOL), \$225 PP (WITHOUT ALCOHOL)
DRESS CODE: FORMAL / CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION / 5 YEAR
EXHIBITION / 4-COURSE MEAL / ENTERTAINMENT

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MESSAGE FROM



Louise McCabe-Arnold

Junior School Principal

Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of what has been an exceptionally busy term, I am proud to reflect on and celebrate the many achievements and experiences that have brought our school community together.

This term has been rich in community spirit. From our Chinese New Year celebrations and the Iftar gathering, to the energy of Quiz Night and reflections shared on International Women's Day, it has been wonderful to see students, parents and staff come together in meaningful ways. These events reflect the vibrant nature of our school.

In the Junior School, we have particularly valued opportunities to strengthen our partnership with parents. Our EAL, Mandarin and Writing workshops were very well received, and it was a pleasure to welcome our Parent Representatives into school to meet with our catering team, Victus, and share lunch together.

Our students have, as always, impressed us with their enthusiasm and achievements. We are incredibly proud of our Grade 5 mathematicians who achieved fantastic results, coming second overall at the FOBISIA Primary Maths Challenge in Shanghai, as well as our talented chess players who competed successfully at both the National Schools Individual Chess Championships and the FOBISIA Championships in Bangkok.

Creativity and performance have also been at the forefront this term. The Grade 5 Showcase was a standout event, with students demonstrating excellent writing, research and presentation skills. Meanwhile, our Grade 1 and 2 String Concerts were a delight, showcasing the dedication and progress students have made over the past two terms on their violins and cellos.

Sport has also played a significant role in an action-packed term. Our First School Sports Day was a huge success, with children participating with enthusiasm, energy and team spirit. It was a joy to see such wholehearted involvement. In addition, students across the Junior School have represented the school in a wide range of fixtures, demonstrating focus, determination and excellent sportsmanship.

Beyond the classroom, students have benefited from a range of enriching experiences. Educational trips across Singapore and specialist workshops, including the Grade 2 art workshop, have enhanced learning in exciting ways. Our Early Years students enjoyed welcoming their families into school for the Lunar Learning Trail, sharing their learning with pride and confidence.

World Book Day was another highlight, with students and staff embracing the joy of reading through imaginative costumes and activities. Adding to the excitement this term has been the introduction of our School Assistance Dog, Kona, who has already become a much-loved member of our community, bringing calm and happiness wherever she goes.

It has truly been an action-packed term, filled with achievement, collaboration and joy. Thank you to our students, staff and parents for your continued energy, commitment and support.

Warm Regards,

THE PRINCIPALS



Sarah Richardson
Senior School Principal

Dear Parents,

This term at NLCS (Singapore) has been defined by its energy and pace, reflecting the ambitious, talented, and vibrant community we are. Our students continue to achieve extraordinary things across academics, drama, music, and sport.

Leadership and advocacy have been at the forefront this term. In the classroom and beyond, the Big 6 have been instrumental in maintaining the school's intellectual momentum. The launch of the Bryant Lectures and the publication of the Societies Executive Report have ensured that student-led scholarship remains a priority, encouraging a level of independent research and peer-to-peer engagement that is core to the NLCS identity. Accompanying this is a huge "shout out" to our Grade 10 students who, under the umbrella of the SACP (Senior Athlete Coaching Programme), are currently organising and hosting a student leadership conference for peers from seven other Singapore international schools. This dialogue will follow on from our inspirational International Women's Day (IWD) commemorations, which culminated in a formal dinner. The evening provided a structured environment for our honoured guests, students, and staff to reflect on the tremendous work being done to move towards greater equity for women.

The term's cultural highlights were led by our actors and musicians. The Senior School production of Julius Caesar, which tackled the complexities of the text with such maturity, was a joy to attend—its extraordinary quality was testament to the enormous talent and hard work of both students and staff. Our musicians, who continue to impress in ensembles and individual performances, gave those of us lucky enough to attend a truly wonderful evening at the Esplanade. Their ability to perform at such a high standard remains a testament to the school's musical rigour, and we look forward to the inaugural NLCS Young Musician of the Year competition next term. Similarly, the IBDP Art Exhibition provided an important platform for our senior students to present their final portfolios, demonstrating their wonderful creative talent. On the sports field, our students have continued to compete across a wide range of fixtures. The term has seen consistent participation and several notable successes in the ACSIS leagues, with our athletes showing resilience and a competitive spirit in every match.

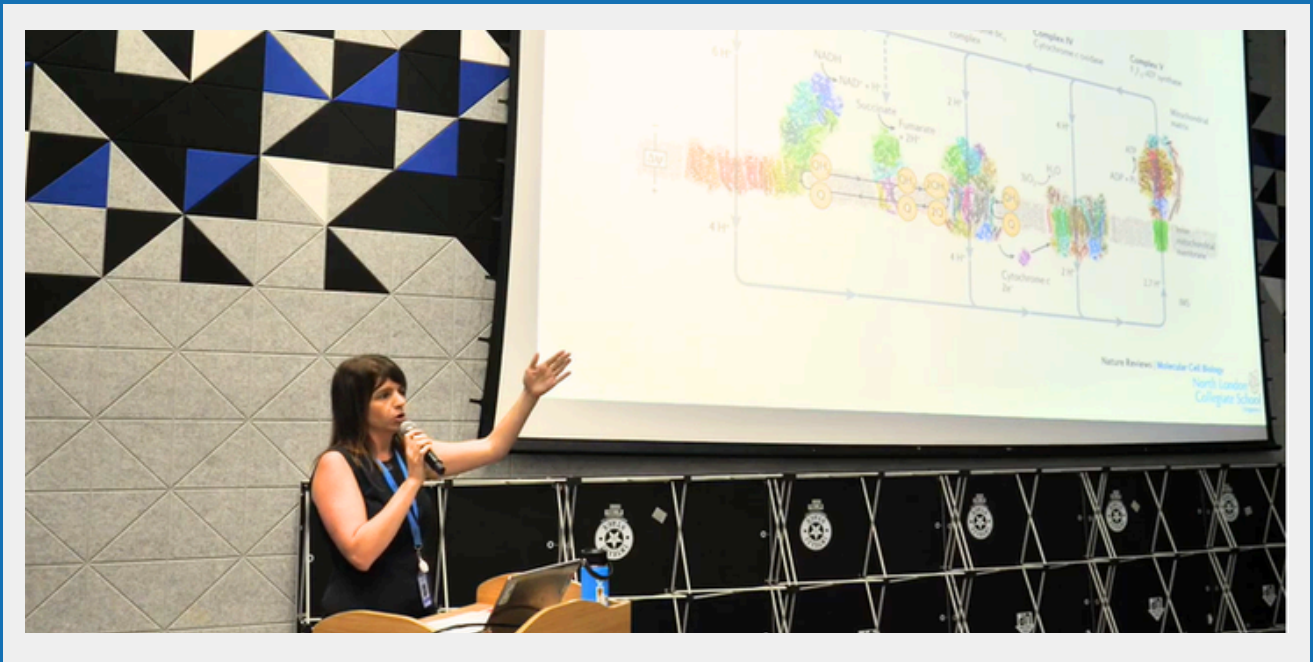
It is a significant feat to have managed such an extensive programme of events during a term that has also brought its share of challenges and change. As we move into the break and look forward to celebrating Founder's Day on 27th March, we acknowledge the hard work of both students and staff in ensuring that an NLCS (Singapore) education remains true to the values of Frances Mary Buss.

We wish our Grade 12 students, in particular, the very best of luck as they begin the final run into their IB Diploma examinations.

Warm Regards,

MCCABE & CLANCHY LECTURES

A Legacy of Curiosity



Senior School

All NLCS schools host their own distinguished lecture series: in London and Dubai these are known as the Nicholson Lectures, while in Jeju they are called the Sejong Lectures. At NLCS, our series is named in honour of Bernice McCabe, the former Headmistress of NLCS UK, whose profound contribution to the school's ethos and intellectual life continues to resonate; she very sadly passed away in 2019 after a battle with cancer.

As an inspirational educationalist, she shaped much of the ethos that defines North London Collegiate School today. Her vision placed intellectual seriousness and curiosity at the heart of school life. Academic excellence, in this tradition, is not a narrow pursuit of results but a disciplined engagement with ideas, both demanding and rewarding.

At NLCS, this has become a culture where scholarship extends beyond the classroom. Lessons are points of departure, and teachers, as passionate advocates for their disciplines, invite students into a wider intellectual landscape. Students are expected to respond with independence and initiative, reflecting her influence.

The McCabe Lecture series sits within this tradition. It is not an addition to academic life but an expression of it. By connecting students with teachers and visiting speakers engaged in their fields, the lectures offer an encounter with scholarship in which ideas are provisional and understanding is incomplete.

These lectures do not aim for easy answers. A successful lecture may leave students unsettled, grappling with unfamiliar concepts or recognising the limits of their understanding. This discomfort is a strength, signalling that knowledge is being actively interrogated.

A lecture is only the beginning. Its value lies in the questions it sparks and the exploration it inspires, reinforcing the belief that education is ongoing and self-directed.

To leave with certainty is comfortable; to leave with questions is transformative.

Scan here for more!



Junior School

As Assistant Principal for Curriculum in the Lower School, one of the highlights of my year is seeing our students captivated by our Clanchy Lectures in the Junior School. The Clanchy Lectures are named in honour of a former Headmistress of NLCS UK, Mrs Joan Clanchy, whose visionary leadership and commitment to academic excellence, intellectual curiosity and the empowerment of young people continue to shape the values and educational ethos of our schools today.

We run around 15 Clanchy Lectures each year, usually linked to a themed week or day, such as History Day, Maths Week, Science Week, Earth Week, Geography Explorers Week and Book Week. The aim is simple but ambitious: to ignite curiosity, show children how their learning connects to the wider world, and give them the chance to hear from passionate experts, and increasingly, from other students.

When we first began, the Clanchy Lectures were delivered by Junior School teachers, who shared their own subject passions beyond the regular curriculum. As the programme has grown, so too has the range of voices. Last year, we welcomed Senior School teachers, Senior School students and Junior School parents as speakers, bringing an even richer variety of experiences and perspectives.

The topics have been as diverse as they are inspiring. We have already enjoyed a fascinating lecture from our Head of Mathematics in the Senior School on the wonders of Pascal's Triangle and a sharing session from Senior School F1 in Schools team, who shared their engineering and design journey.



The impact on our students is clear. They come away from Clanchy Lectures asking thoughtful questions, making connections to their classwork, and often continuing conversations long after the sessions have ended. The lectures support our academic aims by stretching thinking, broadening horizons and modelling intellectual curiosity. They also build confidence; seeing older students, parents and teachers speak passionately about a subject helps our Junior School children, some as young as 5 years old, imagine themselves as future scholars, creators and problem-solvers.

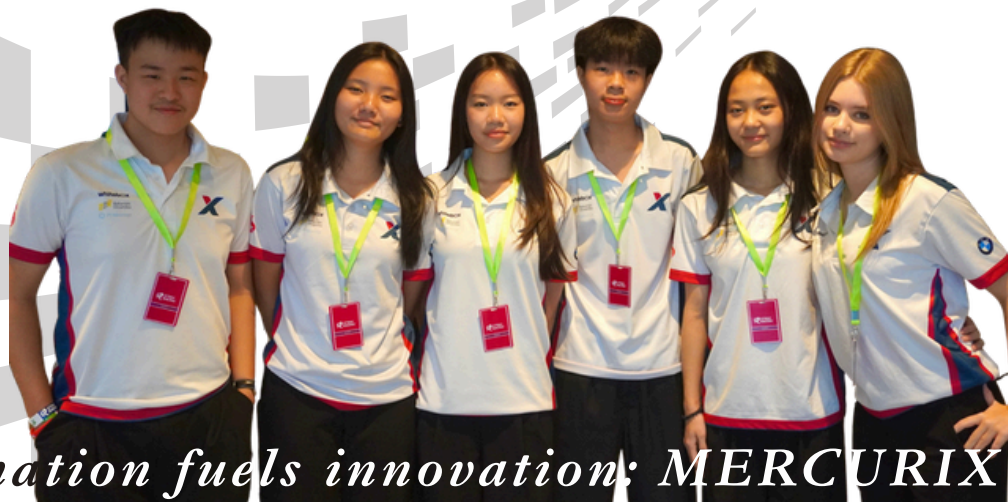
***The Clanchy Lecture series has become an important part of our Junior School culture:
a space where curiosity is celebrated,
expertise is shared, and our students glimpse the many ways their learning can truly
“transform their future.”***

Louise Wyeth

Assistant Principal (Junior School)

SCHOLARS & ACHIEVERS

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE ACROSS OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY



Imagination fuels innovation: MERCURI X racing

Last season, MercuriX Racing faced challenges that could have held them back. In 2025, they turned reflection into action and emerged with a championship win.

“At the start of 2025, we looked honestly at what went wrong last year,” says Team Manager Samuel Sai (G10). “We realised success isn’t just about a fast car. It’s about organisation, teamwork, and refining every detail.”

Two new members brought fresh energy, while the whole team strengthened communication and collaboration. Budgeting improved too: a 40% increase in funds enabled higher-quality materials and professional support, including Whitebox, the production house behind their award-winning video presentation.

The car itself became a testament to precision and resilience. Using ANSYS simulations and iterative testing, the team refined every component. Several design attempts failed to meet regulations or performance goals, but these “failures” became lessons that ultimately produced a faster, more reliable vehicle.



Follow their journey here:



Their efforts paid off at the 2025 Singapore National Finals. MercuriX Racing clinched National Champion, won Knockout Racing Champion, and earned Best Video Presentation.

Yet the greatest growth wasn’t only technical. “A strong team isn’t defined by job titles,” reflects Research Engineer Yarun Zhang (G10). “It’s defined by trust, collaboration, and being there for each other.”

From smarter organisation and stronger funding to data-driven engineering and unified team culture, MercuriX Racing proves that setbacks, when met with reflection and discipline, are the foundation of success. Now, they set their sights on the 2026 STEM Racing World Finals, ready to take lessons learned from setbacks and turn them into global triumphs.

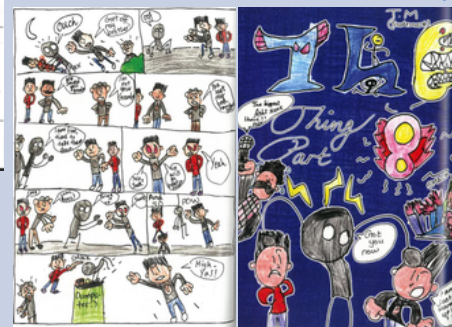
From Doodles to Dynamic Worlds **POW!**

Two student authors take readers inside their comic universe



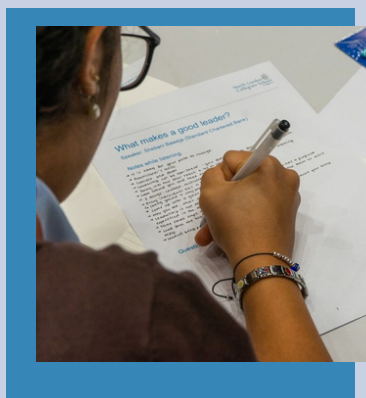
Exclusive sneak peek of their next book:

If they could entice readers to read their book based on two pages it would be:



What started out as a random doodle quickly became the main character of their published book, *The Thing*, for two of our students, **Ahaan (G5) and Avneya (G5)**. *The Thing* follows a group of friends who find themselves facing an unexpected and formidable monster. As the story unfolds, what begins as a thrilling adventure soon becomes a tale of courage, friendship, and resilience. In this dynamic duo, Ahaan brings the story to life through vivid illustrations, while Avneya crafts the narrative with flair and originality. They also shared that learning experiences at NLCS helped them to shape the book, particularly English lessons and the school's emphasis on creativity. The duo have also launched a "Comic Club" society that runs during lunchtime for like-minded individuals who are interested in learning more. To find out what all the buzz is about, borrow their book from the school libraries!

Student Leadership Conference



The inaugural **North London Collegiate School (Singapore) SACP Student Leadership Conference** was a huge success, bringing together over **100 aspiring student leaders from across seven international schools** for a dynamic and purposeful day of growth. This year's conference was led by Grade 10 students, Denise and Dalia with keynote speakers Shebani Baweja and Lisa Partridge. Designed to challenge, inspire and empower, the conference blends keynote insights, interactive workshops and student-led sessions that explore what effective leadership looks like in today's world.

Throughout the day, students examined resilience, wellbeing, communication and ethical decision-making, while connecting with like-minded peers from other schools. Practical, activity-based sessions ensured students were not just listening, but also collaborating, debating and reflecting on their own leadership styles.

With opportunities to share experiences, tackle real-world challenges and build meaningful networks, this conference left students with the confidence, clarity and courage to lead with impact, both within their schools and beyond.



NLCS (Singapore) was incredibly privileged to welcome students from our sister schools in Kobe, London, Dubai, and Jeju for our inaugural NLCS International Model United Nations, centred on the theme 'Bridges Across Borders'.

NLCSI MUN

Over three dynamic days, delegates came together to explore diplomacy in action, engaging thoughtfully with global issues while building meaningful connections across our international community.



The event opened with an energetic performance from our Big Band, followed by an address from Mark Fletcher, First Secretary to the British High Commission, who shared insights into his work and offered practical advice on what it means to be an effective diplomat. From there, students immersed themselves in committee sessions spanning Sustainability, Human Rights, and historical contexts such as the Berlin Airlift of 1948. Across two days of rigorous debate, delegates represented their assigned countries, negotiating perspectives and working collaboratively to reach resolutions on pressing challenges including environmental concerns, water scarcity, and transnational cybercrime.

A defining feature of the event was the exceptional level of student leadership. From months of preparation to the seamless execution of the conference, our student-led Executive Committee (EXCOMM) demonstrated remarkable organisation, resilience, and teamwork. Experienced MUN students mentored newer delegates, while student chairs guided discussions with confidence and expertise, ensuring that every voice was heard and every session ran smoothly.



Beyond the conference rooms, the event offered rich opportunities for connection and cultural exchange. Delegates celebrated their shared achievements at a Gala Dinner held at Momentus Hotel, forging friendships over an evening of excellent food and lively conversation. The programme concluded with a chance for our visiting students to experience Singapore, including trips to Gardens by the Bay and the ArtScience Museum.

The weekend was a powerful reflection of the strength of our global NLCS community, defined by collaboration, curiosity, and mutual respect. We are immensely proud of all those involved and look forward to building on the success of this event in the years to come.



GET TO KNOW DEPOT AID

Empowering Students to Make a Difference



Depot Aid at NLCS (Singapore) is an in-school collective that plays a pivotal role in shaping and coordinating student-led service across the senior school. It is composed of the chairs of our various service societies, and is chaired by the **Service Ambassador, Jean-Edouard Dahy**, with oversight from the **Service Coordinator, Mr. ALSaqq**, and the **Vice Principal (Academic), Mr. Burdett**. The committee meets fortnightly to plan and implement meaningful service initiatives that make a real difference in the school community and beyond.

At Depot Aid meetings, representatives from each service society bring forward proposals for new projects and ideas. Together, members discuss, refine, and organise these initiatives, pooling their collective energy and expertise to bring them to life. This collaborative process not only strengthens leadership skills but also fosters a shared commitment to serving others. The committee also plays a key role in the school's philanthropic decisions: it democratically votes on which charities will benefit from the proceeds of whole-school fundraising events such as the **Annual Gala, Christmas Fayre, and Summer Festival**.

In addition to coordinating society activities, Depot Aid supports individual students who want to launch their own service projects. Recognising that not all students are part of an established society, the committee provides guidance in the planning process—helping with materials lists, sourcing and purchasing items, and securing official dates in the school calendar. This support empowers students to take initiative and ensures that passionate young people have the resources and encouragement they need to turn their service ideas into reality.

Through its inclusive structure and collaborative ethos, Depot Aid embodies NLCS (Singapore)'s belief in active citizenship, student leadership, and the idea that service should be accessible to all. It encourages students not only to serve, but to lead, innovate and act with compassion and purpose.

WHO IS LEADING THE TEAM?

The Service Ambassador Jean-Edouard Dahy (Chair of Depot Aid): He works in conjunction with the Service Coordinator Mr. ALSaqqa and Mr. Burdett to help guide students with service initiatives, from initial planning to a full-scale event. Jean-Edouard also helps Depot Aid, service societies and students to advertise and announce their initiatives during assemblies and in the whole-school bulletins.

Mr. ALSaqqa (Supervisor of Depot Aid): Mr. ALSaqqa works with the more technical aspects of student initiatives. He helps students with the logistics of their initiative, coordinating with the different departments within our school to ensure students have access to the materials, resources and facilities they may need for their initiatives.



Depot Aid in the Community





BOOK WEEK

Monday 2nd - Friday 6th March

Our annual Book Week, held in celebration of World Book Day, was a vibrant, week-long tribute to the power and beauty of the written word.

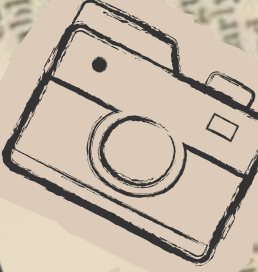
Reading and writing remained at the heart of everything we do, shaping learning across the curriculum, deepening our understanding of the world, and helping students find their place within it. While this focus is embedded throughout the year, Book Week provided a special opportunity to celebrate it more fully, with a particular spotlight on voices and stories from Southeast Asia.

This year, we were delighted to welcome a range of inspiring authors and storytellers. In the First School, storyteller Sheila Wee led engaging workshops on traditional tales. Students in Grades 2 and 3 met Namita Moolani Mehra, who returned to share her new book *Veena Red Roti*, while Grades 4 and 5 connected with Weng Wai Chan, author of *The Lizard's Tale*, which Grade 5 had been studying.

In the Senior School, students revisited the books that first inspired their love of reading, alongside those that have continued to resonate through their teenage years and beyond. Across the school, the week was brought to life through mystery readers, shared reading between Junior and Senior classes, quizzes, competitions, Clanchy and McCabe lectures, the much-loved Closetful of Books Book Fair, and the ever-popular dress-up day.

At its heart, Book Week celebrated a love of reading, expanded horizons through words, and encouraged every student to take a chance at stepping beyond the familiar and discovering the joy of being transported to another time, place, or perspective.





Some children who have lived abroad for many years may understand their mother tongue and even be able to speak it in familiar contexts, yet find it challenging to fully communicate through reading and writing. Over time, it is common for children to begin responding to their parents in English, particularly when they lack the vocabulary or confidence to express more complex thoughts and emotions in their home language. This gradual shift can happen quite naturally, especially in environments where English becomes the dominant language of learning, friendships, and daily life.

However, for many families, there remains a language that connects them to a home beyond their host country—in this case, Singapore. This language carries more than just words; it holds cultural nuances, shared memories, traditions, and a sense of heritage that cannot easily be translated. Maintaining this connection is important, as it supports children in developing a deeper sense of belonging and identity. It allows them to understand where they come from, to communicate more meaningfully with extended family members, and to appreciate the richness of their own background.

Encouraging children to continue using and developing their mother tongue, whether through conversation, reading, storytelling, or cultural experiences, helps to preserve this connection. In doing so, we not only support their language development, but also nurture a stronger sense of self and a lasting link to their roots.

It is important to continue learning about one's mother tongue as it is not only a means of communication, but also helps better understand one's own culture and establish one's own individual identity and self worth.



Throughout the week, students engage with culture and linguistic patterns, take part in debates, and experience the traditions and celebrations of others. We celebrate languages whether through students mother tongues or through languages they have acquired at school, such as Spanish. Students share their linguistic and cultural heritage through a variety of activities.

I learned that letting myself sound bad in Mandarin was the only way in: the laughs broke the ice, the corrections built a conversation, and by the end I wasn't just understood, I'd made a friend.

-Ryan, Grade 6

I learnt some words in new languages such as French and Korean since I watched the lip-sync competition, and overall the week was super fun!

-Kavya, Grade 8

Language Week brings our community together, encouraging mutual respect, empathy, and understanding. It helps us appreciate where we come from, support one another, and reflect on how language plays a key role in shaping our identity.

JULIUS CAESAR

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



This year's **Senior School Production, Julius Caesar**, was a roaring success, with over sixty students involved on and off-stage, in the cast, and behind the scenes. The stage has never looked so grand, with a wonderful lighting design by Mr Trevor Teo, and the whole cast rose to the occasion with some magnificent ensemble work, and some incredible principal performances by the leads. The directors, Mr Trevill and Mr Lund, are hugely proud of everyone who got involved, from assassinating Caesars to making spears and shields. Congratulations to them, and on to the next one!

Alastair Trevill

Head of Drama, Senior School





“
I would absolutely encourage students to get involved in future productions because of how much of a rewarding experience it is. Not only does it allow you to develop as a person (both within and out of school) but it also allows you to get to know people from the whole school and make friends for life.
”

Saoirse (G12)



“

This production made me realise that I am capable of pushing beyond my comfort zone and taking on demanding roles. I strongly believe drama is an important part of school life as it helps students build confidence, communication skills and resilience.

”

Anaya (G11)





“

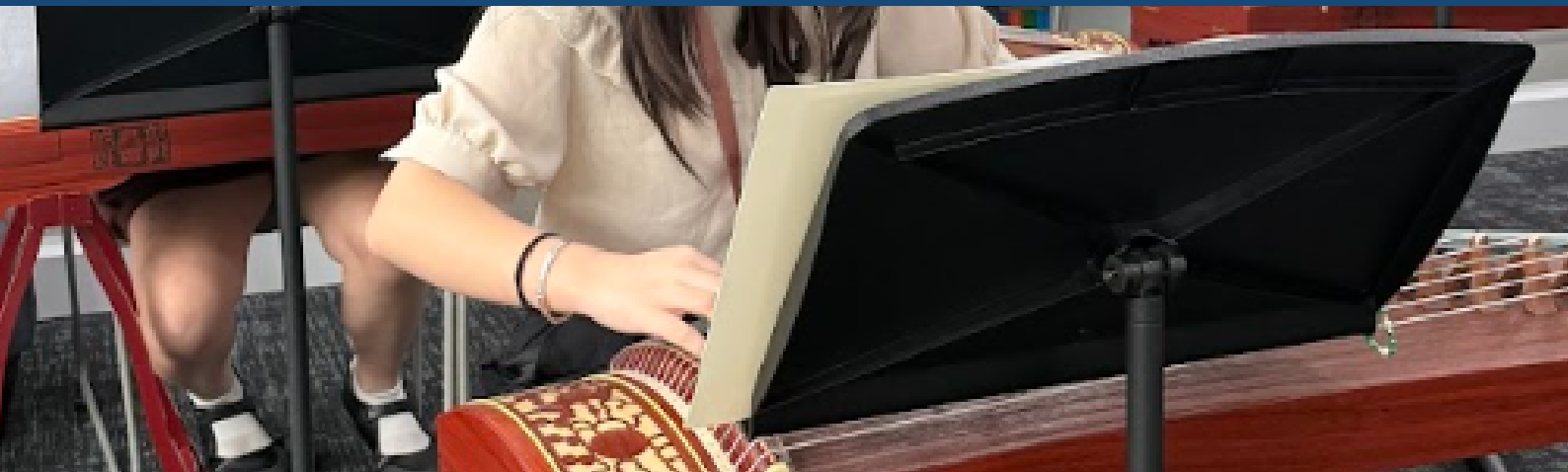
This production has allowed me to grow as a person, and improve my skills in acting. Although it was time consuming, it was most definitely worth it. It is a memory that I will cherish forever.

”

Seher (G7)



SENIOR SCHOOL MUSIC



Music at North London Collegiate School (Singapore) continues to play a vibrant and integral role in school life, reflecting the school's commitment to a rich, well-rounded education. Across all year groups, students are encouraged to explore music not only as a subject of academic study but also as a powerful means of creative expression and collaboration.



McLauchlan Library Recitals

Our Chinese Music Group delivered a stunning recital at the Senior School Library! Highlights included Ditty of Henan, TarTar Dance, Dance of the Golden Snake, Silver Cloud Chasing the Moon, and Liuyang River. Each piece was played brilliantly, with energy, precision, and real musicality, showing the students' dedication and hard work.

A truly memorable lunchtime of Chinese music!



Within the curriculum, students develop their skills as performers, composers and critical listeners, with opportunities to pursue Music at both IGCSE and IB Diploma level. Alongside this, a thriving instrumental and vocal programme enables students to take up individual lessons, work towards internationally recognised examinations, and deepen their musical expertise.

Beyond the classroom, the co-curricular music programme offers a wide range of ensembles, from choirs and orchestras to smaller chamber and student-led groups. Regular concerts, recitals and performances provide students with valuable opportunities to showcase their talents, build confidence and experience the joy of making music together.

Supported by specialist teaching and excellent facilities, music at NLCS (Singapore) continues to inspire participation at all levels while nurturing a culture of ambition, creativity and excellence.

WE ASPIRE TO INSPIRE



An exceptional evening of music-making at the Esplanade Recital Room showcased the outstanding talent and commitment of our students at NLCS (Singapore).

From the opening moments, the Percussion Ensemble established a sense of energy and occasion, setting the tone for a thoughtfully curated and ambitious programme. The Chinese Music Ensemble followed with performances that brought traditional repertoire to life with both authenticity and sensitivity, while the Chamber Choir demonstrated poise and control in their refined and expressive singing.

A particular highlight of the evening was the performance of Mendelssohn's Piano Trio in D minor (Movement I) by our youngest piano trio. Their interpretation displayed impressive maturity, musical awareness, and ensemble cohesion. The Advanced Strings ensemble delivered engaging performances of Mambo from West Side Story and Vivaldi's Spring, combining rhythmic vitality with stylistic clarity.

The programme was further enriched by accomplished vocal solos from our Upper Sixth students and a beautifully shaped performance from the Cello Ensemble. The Chamber Orchestra brought the evening to a close with a confident and assured account of the Coriolan Overture, followed by a spirited and crowd-pleasing Pirates of the Caribbean.

We are immensely proud of all the students involved. Their dedication, discipline, and musical integrity were evident throughout, and they rose to the demands of the programme with assurance and distinction.

Edward Jefferies

Head of Music, Senior School

Esplanade Recital

AN EVENING TO REMEMBER





JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC

AT THE HEART OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY



The Grade 1 and 2 String Showcase was a wonderful celebration of the progress our young musicians have made this year.

In Grade 1, students are now confidently playing the violin using their bows with developing control and good technique. They are able to perform on the open strings, creating a range of different sounds through simple pieces and warm-ups. It is fantastic to see how quickly they have grown in confidence, coordination, and musical understanding in such a short time.

In Grade 2, students have the exciting opportunity to continue on the violin or transition to the cello, adding depth and richness to the ensemble. This year, their focus has been on harmony, understanding how different parts work together to make music more interesting and expressive. There is no better way to explore this than by playing together, building textures across the group. The cello provides the bass line, while the violins perform both melody and harmony parts. Technically, Grade 2 students are now using their first and second fingers on the fingerboard to change pitch with increasing accuracy. The next step is introducing the third finger, which will further expand their musical possibilities and repertoire.

We are so very proud of all our young performers, you really did brilliantly. Well done!

Roderick Howie
Head of Music, Junior School





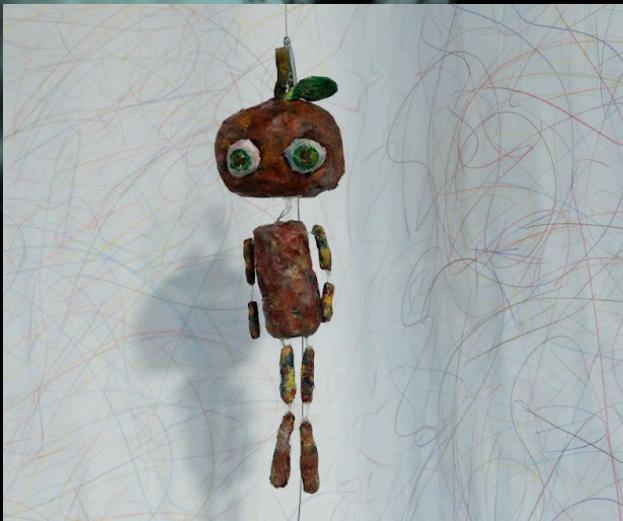
A CANVAS OF IDEAS, A SPECTRUM OF VOICES

VISUAL ARTS

The Art department embarked on a more explicit strategy of preparing Middle and Upper School students for the Diploma programme. This is more fun than it sounds! Generally speaking, all MYP students engaged with a large range of materials, such as print-making, acrylic paint, water colours, clay, digital, whilst exploring different themes—good primers for what takes place in the sixth form.

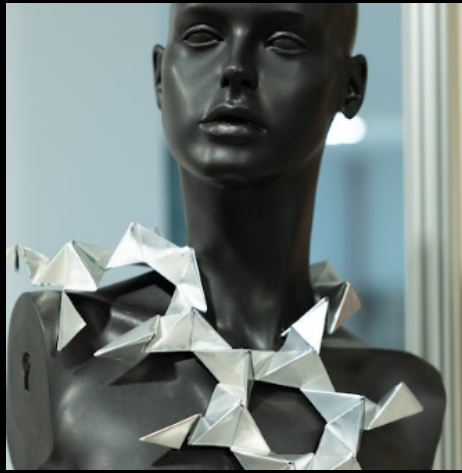
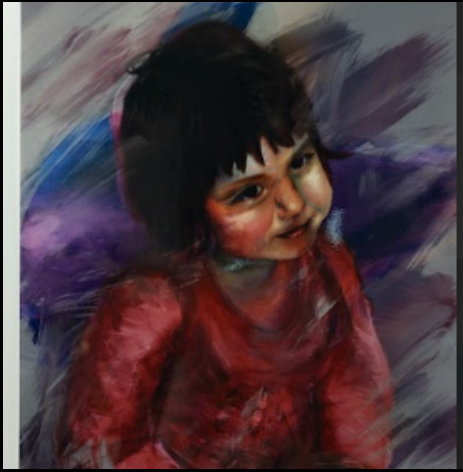
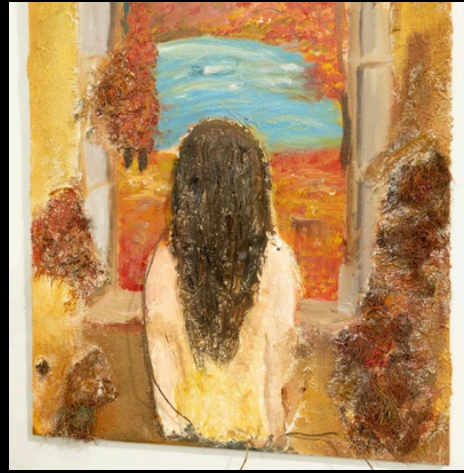


It also entails a greater focus on developing certain core skills required for the Diploma from, such as observational drawing (G7 and 10), development of conceptual work through sculpture and graphics (G9 and 10) and more thorough usage of subject-specific vocabulary (all grades) in order for students to better understand, analyse, and explain their work.

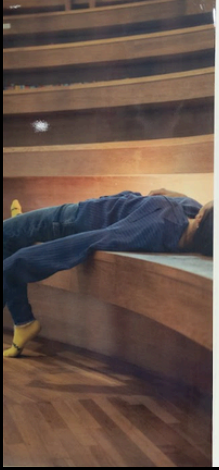


We are extremely proud of all the work produced this year. As can be seen from the images, the quality was exceptionally high, and we look forward to raising the bar even further next year!



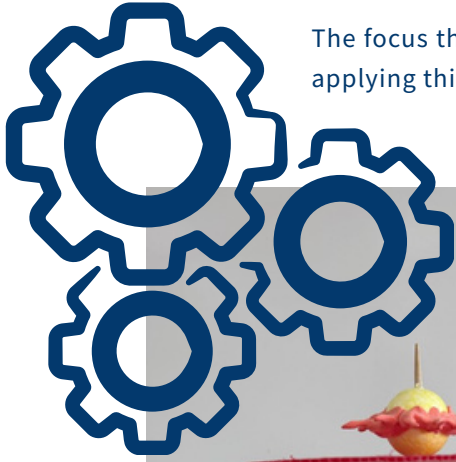


SENIOR SCHOOL
DP VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION



ART & DESIGN

Junior School

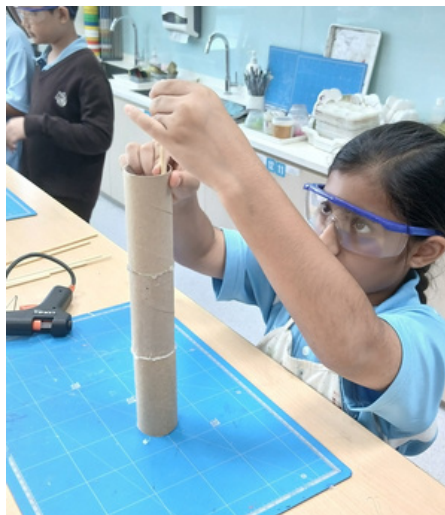


The focus this term was on mechanisms, with students exploring how things move before applying this to two projects: fairground rides and automata.



Grade 4 and 5 students have been busy bringing movement to life, creating a real buzz of energy in the classroom. Each project was rooted in the design cycle: investigate, design, create and evaluate. Students explored their chosen mechanism, developed ideas through working drawings, then moved into making and reflecting on their outcomes. Fairground rides needed to include a wheel and axle system, while automata relied on cams and followers to create movement.

Working in pairs, students developed their own themes. For the fairground rides, this included naming their ride and making thoughtful choices about colour and decoration, while for the automata they considered the type of movement needed and shaped their cams to achieve the desired effect.



As they brought their ideas to life, students grew in confidence using tools such as hacksaws, palm punchers and glue guns, while learning to measure, cut and assemble materials accurately. It was great to see students collaborating, problem-solving and adapting their designs.

The finished pieces show real individuality and a strong sense of pride, with each outcome reflecting both creative thinking and developing technical skill.



HOUSE SPIRIT:



Banjutan is a house built around energy, commitment and a strong sense of togetherness. It has developed a reputation for hard work and quiet determination, with students who consistently give their best across academic, sporting and creative pursuits. There is a strong collegiate spirit within the house, with Banjutans supporting one another and taking pride in collective success rather than individual recognition.

Named after the Banjutan tree, native to Southeast Asia, the house reflects ideas of steady growth, durability and deep-rooted community. From its early years under the leadership of Mr Abbate, Banjutan quickly became known for its consistency, often finishing just short of the top spot in house competitions. Those early near-misses helped shape a culture of persistence and belief in themselves.

Under the more recent leadership of Mr Lyons, that belief turned into momentum, culminating in a decisive house victory last year. The scale of that win, and the outstanding house performance that accompanied it, captured what Banjutan is about: full commitment, shared effort and the confidence to step up when it matters most.



Cengal House stands for strength, strategy, and unstoppable spirit. Inspired by the Cengal tree, one of the toughest and most enduring hardwoods, Cengal represents resilience, determination, and the power to thrive under pressure. Like the tree it is named after, Cengal House stands tall, grounded, and unbreakable.

Our motto, "Cunning and wise, we rise to the prize," captures the heart of what it means to be part of Cengal. We believe success comes from smart thinking, sharp instincts, and sound judgement. Being "cunning" means approaching challenges with creativity and strategy, while being "wise" means acting with integrity, learning from experience, and making choices that lift the whole team.

Cengal House is driven by unity and confidence. Whether in academics, sports, or co-curricular pursuits, Cengal members push themselves and each other to go further. We compete fiercely, support loudly, and celebrate every effort. Every challenge is met head-on, every setback is a lesson, and every victory is shared.

Together, we rise stronger, smarter, and prouder.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



At the heart of our school community stands Meranti, a house named after the majestic Shorea tree, commonly known as the meranti tree. Native to Southeast Asia, the meranti is renowned for its strength, resilience, and enduring presence in the rainforest. Just like the tree, our Meranti House represents growth, stability, and the power of deep roots. It symbolises students who are grounded in strong values, yet always reaching upward—striving for excellence in all that they do.

The meranti tree is also known for its versatility and reliability. Its wood has long been valued for building and craftsmanship, reminding us that true strength lies not only in standing tall but in supporting others. As members of Meranti House, we are encouraged to be dependable, collaborative, and committed to contributing positively to our school community.

Our house colour, blue, further reflects the spirit of Meranti. Blue is widely associated with qualities such as trust, loyalty, wisdom, and confidence. It represents calmness and clarity of thought—essential traits for both academic and personal success. Blue also symbolises unity and stability, reminding us that we are strongest when we stand together. Together, the symbolism of the meranti tree and the colour blue creates a powerful identity. Meranti House is more than just a name or a colour, it is a shared commitment to resilience, integrity, and collective achievement. As we continue to grow, compete, and celebrate together, we carry forward the spirit of Meranti: strong in character, steady in purpose, and always reaching for greater heights.



Standing proudly in our community is Keruing House, named after the mighty Dipterocarpus—the Keruing tree. Much like its namesake, which is celebrated for its immense height and the resilient resin that protects it, our house is built on a foundation of unwavering strength and endurance. We are a thriving collective of nearly 200 students, each rooted in the belief that while we are individuals, we are strongest when we grow together as one canopy.

The diversity within Keruing is our greatest asset. Our house is a vibrant tapestry of skills and passions, home to a wide range of talents that reflect our versatile nature. From the precision of our mathematicians and the creativity of our bakers to the high-energy artistry of our K-pop dancers, we celebrate the unique "timber" each student brings to the forest. This eclectic mix is held together by a supportive and inclusive culture; in Keruing, every voice is heard, and every talent has the space to flourish.

At the core of our identity is a great team spirit and a storied resilience. Just as the Keruing tree withstands the elements and continues to reach for the sun, our students face challenges with a steady, "can-do" attitude. We don't just compete; we uplift one another, ensuring that no one stands alone. To be in Keruing is to be part of a legacy that is strong in character and steady in purpose—a house that remains grounded in kindness while always reaching for new heights of collective achievement.

SPORTING SPIRIT

First School Sports Day

In Term 2, our youngest athletes came together for our First School Sports Day, proudly representing their Houses as they demonstrated their skills with energy and enthusiasm. Competing in front of a full and supportive crowd of parents, they were encouraged by the vibrant atmosphere, making the day a truly memorable celebration of effort, participation, and House spirit.

Go Cengal, Go Keruing, Go Banjutan, and Go Meranti!



The Bulldogs Competitive Swim Squads have enjoyed an exceptionally busy and successful calendar this year. From local friendlies to the high-stakes ACSIS and FOBISIA Championships, our swimmers have consistently demonstrated dedication, skill, and sportsmanship.

With the Junior School ACSIS Championships still on the horizon, we are proud to share the fabulous results achieved across our other major competitions:

Middle School ACSIS Championships

The Middle School squad delivered a powerhouse performance, bringing home a total of 9 medals:

Gold: 4

Silver: 3

Bronze: 2

- Record Breakers: We are thrilled to announce two new ACSIS Records set in both the boys 50m and 100m Breaststroke.

FOBISIA Swimming Championships (Phuket)

Competing against the premier programs in Southeast Asia, the Bulldogs secured a prestigious 5th Place Overall. Our athletes stepped onto the podium in 17 different events, collecting:

Gold: 4

Silver: 5

Bronze: 5

In our most recent outing at the National Stadium, the Bulldogs achieved a historic milestone. We saw our biggest representation ever, with 7 swimmers qualifying to compete at the highest level in the country against Singapore's elite school and club athletes.

Congratulations to all our competitors for their hard work and for representing the Bulldogs with such distinction. We look forward to carrying this momentum into the upcoming Junior School championships!



ATHLETES OF

Every term, we celebrate students whose dedication, skill, and sportsmanship stand out both on and off the playing field. This term, we are proud to recognise these students whose determination, teamwork, and passion for their sport of choice have inspired peers and set a high standard for excellence.



Amelie Vo
Junior School, Grade 4

Q: How did you feel when you found out you were chosen as Athlete of the Term?

When I learned I was chosen as NLCS Athlete of the Term, I felt very surprised and excited. I love competing and representing my school, so it means a lot to me to be selected. I'm very grateful to my coaches for encouraging me to try new sports, and to my teammates for always supporting and motivating me.

Q: What has been your favourite moment in sport this term?

My highlight this term was attending the FOBISIA international swim competition in Phuket in January. At first, I felt nervous being the youngest participant, but Coach Simpson and my teammates made me feel very welcome.

The three-day experience was exhausting, but I loved every second of it: racing, cheering for our team, and being part of such a special experience. I was super thankful that my family was in attendance too. Now, I can't wait until the FOBISIA Games in May!

Q: Looking back on this term, what do you think helped you perform consistently in your sport?

Consistency came from discipline and focusing on small improvements. In swimming and golf, technique and patience matter a lot. By concentrating on effort during every practice and trusting gradual progress, I was able to stay steady throughout the term.

Q: What goals are you setting for yourself for next term or season?

Next term, I hope to continue improving my technique and achieve new personal bests in swimming while developing consistency in golf. I also want to keep supporting my teammates and representing my school with dedication and sportsmanship.



Kim Minjoon (MJ)
Middle School, Grade 7

THE TERM



Ben Gibbons
Senior School, Grade 8

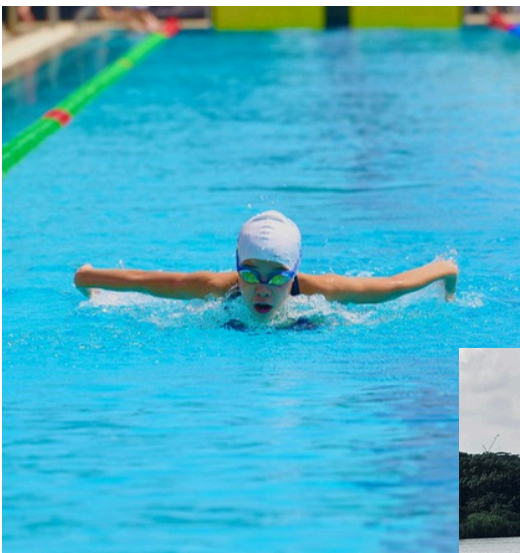
Q: What does this recognition represent in the wider context of your sporting journey?

This recognition is very motivating for me, especially as I would like to make sport my career, either as a player or as a coach. My ultimate dream would be to play cricket professionally, and to represent Singapore one day. I know it will not be an easy journey, but recently I made the first step by being selected for the U15 Singapore national development squad.

Q: As a senior athlete, how do you see your role influencing younger students in the sporting community?

I captained the NLCS U14 cricket team and enjoyed guiding and encouraging the younger players, some of whom had not played much hard ball cricket before. Motivating each other was really key, as good team spirits can help change a game. I'm also looking forward to getting involved with junior coaching at the Singapore Cricket Club in the future.

OUR STARS IN ACTION!





TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Obada AlSaqqa

Second In-Charge of Mathematics &
Service Coordinator

My journey into teaching mathematics followed a decade-long career in Civil Engineering. This foundation began early; from Grade 8, my father, an architect, trained my older brothers and me in AutoCAD, often hiring us as draftsmen. I furthered this path with an MSc in Civil Engineering, specializing in construction management, which I earned through a Fulbright Scholarship. My master's thesis, which was half math and half engineering, involved creating a Fuzzy Logic Model to calculate and mitigate the risk of project delay.

Making a significant change, I transitioned my professional focus to education, specifically teaching mathematics. Before coming to NLCS (Singapore), I held the position of Head of Mathematics and Computational Thinking Department at King's Academy in Jordan, a boarding school built by the King of Jordan, with Deerfield Academy in the US as its sister.

What inspired you to pursue a career in education?

My passion for teaching has always been strong, beginning with the enjoyment of tutoring friends and relatives in mathematics, computer science, and engineering subjects throughout my school and college years. While certain obstacles initially clouded the path to a teaching career, any doubt vanished the moment I led my first demonstration class. It was then I realized, without a doubt, that teaching is my true calling.

What do you hope your students take away from your classes?

Math is a language, and consistent practice will lead to greater fluency.

What is your favourite quote or a motto you live by?

It's from my favourite book by Dr. Seuss *Oh! The Places You'll Go*. I particularly appreciate this line: "You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself in any direction you choose."

What is the biggest lesson teaching has taught you?

That you can plan the perfect lesson, and sometimes what a student really needs is five minutes of quiet kindness.



You may have seen these familiar faces at our front desk reception but do you know them?



“About a year ago, I started an exciting new chapter in my first school role. With a passion for exploring different cultures, I have travelled the world, enjoying everything from bustling cities to peaceful nature spots. I am someone who loves adventures, I have even gone skydiving twice! Inspired by the saying from the Quran, “For indeed, with hardship [will be] ease,” I like to tackle challenges with a positive attitude and a lot of resilience. I am really looking forward to making a difference in the lives around me, with my experiences and can-do spirit.

Lyn Kamarudin ”
Parent Relations Executive
Languages: English, Malay



“I enjoy exploring the roads less travelled, whether it’s a new city, hiking scenic trails, diving into a novel or a great shopping spree. Growing up surrounded with diversified cultures, I am proud to be a Singaporean (with the “knowledge” of Singlish!)

”
Eileen Khoo
Parent Relations Executive
Languages: English, Mandarin



“A Singapore native, I joined NLCS (Singapore) in December 2024. I enjoy building strong relationships with parents, students, and colleagues, and believe that clear communication and empathy contributes in creating a positive and welcoming school environment. I am passionate about ensuring every interaction feels personal, supportive, and meaningful. Outside of work, I enjoy spending quality time with my family and relaxing with my favourite shows like New Amsterdam, Manifest and Million Dollar Secret!

”
Jessie Kaur
Parent Relations Executive
Languages: English, Malay, Hindi, Punjabi

Meet our School Dog, Kona



Our School Dog, Kona is an apricot and white Cavapoochon: a cross between Cavalier King Charles Spinel, Poodle and Bichon Frise. Trained as a School Assistance Dog since she was eight weeks old, Kona is very much a working dog while at school and is already becoming an integral part of our community.

A Day in the Life of Kona



Inside Mrs McCabe-Arnold's Office



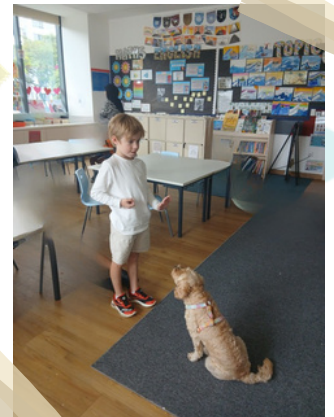
Welcoming students, staff & parents



Supporting small groups



Visiting Assemblies



Whether greeting students with a wagging tail or offering quiet companionship during moments of reflection, Kona has a unique ability to put people at ease. Interactions with Kona can help reduce stress, build confidence and encourage positive social behaviours, particularly for younger students or those who may need a little extra support.

Kona is also integrated into aspects of school life, from informal meet-and-greets to supporting reading or relaxation sessions, creating meaningful opportunities for students to connect, communicate and feel supported.

In many ways, Kona embodies the school's commitment to nurturing not just academic excellence, but also kindness, empathy and emotional wellbeing, making her a truly cherished member of the NLCS (Singapore) community.

◆◆◆◆◆ Why a School Dog? ◆◆◆◆◆

Research consistently highlights the positive impact therapy dogs can have on children's development and wellbeing

COGNITIVE

- ✓ Stimulates memory and problem-solving
- ✓ Encourages focus and engagement

SOCIAL

- ✓ Encourages responsibility
- ✓ Strengthens peer relations

EMOTIONAL

- ✓ Teaches compassion and respect
- ✓ Lifts mood and improves self-esteem

PHYSICAL

- ✓ Reduces blood pressure
- ✓ Provides tactile stimulation

ENVIRONMENTAL

- ✓ Fosters a strong sense of belonging
- ✓ Strengthens community atmosphere
- ✓ Extends wellbeing beyond the classroom

But most importantly... Kona gives the best cuddles!

CLUBS & COMMUNITY



Curry, Questions, and Lots of Community

Our Curry and Quiz Night was back for its third consecutive year, bringing staff and parents together for fun, friendly competition, delicious food, laughter-filled community connections, and unexpected challenges—who knew you could build a structure so high out of spaghetti and marshmallows!



Connections With a View Ahead of Musical Magic

Families of performers gathered for a drinks reception overlooking Marina Bay, enjoying breathtaking views and refined refreshments, while connecting and sharing excitement ahead of our much-admired Esplanade Music Recital.



“
To begin the evening on such a high note at a lovely location, and then experience the brilliance of the Esplanade Music Recital, made the night truly unforgettable.
”





Walk, Talk, Connect

The NLCSConnect Walking Club has been exploring Singapore's scenic highlights, from Rifle Range Nature Park and Bukit Timah Nature Reserve to East Coast Park-Joo Chiat and MacRitchie Treetops.

Members enjoyed invigorating walks throughout Term 2, with our Principals also joining—getting their steps in while connecting with parents along the way.



CNY Crafting Together

The NLCSConnect Creative Club continues to support our community through engaging parent and child activities. This term, during Chinese New Year Cultural Week, families created beautiful pipe cleaner bouquets, showcasing their creativity with fantastic results.





CHINESE NEW YEAR COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

马行千里志，心向万国书

The new term opened with renewed energy and excitement as our school community embraced the spirit of the Lunar New Year and our annual Chinese New Year Community Celebration.

This year's Chinese New Year Community Celebration showcased the incredible depth of talent within our student and parent community. Across the event, an astounding 14 performances highlighted the richness and beauty of Chinese traditions and culture. Families were treated to a vibrant array of dance, music ensembles, singing, and theatre, each performance reflecting dedication, creativity, and a genuine love for cultural expression.

A key element behind the success of the celebration is the unwavering support of our NLCS (Singapore) Chinese Parents Committee. Each year, this remarkable group of parents demonstrates incredible organisation, passion, and dedication, ensuring every aspect of the festivities comes together seamlessly. From designing and arranging the beautiful decorations to coordinating logistics and engaging volunteers, the Committee's efforts bring the entire celebration to life.

Beyond the performances and festivities, community events like these play a vital role in the life of an international school such as NLCS (Singapore). They provide families with opportunities to explore, learn, and appreciate the multi-dimensional community in which we live, encouraging a deeper understanding of diverse cultures and perspectives. These celebrations are designed with the intention of enabling our students to flourish in any environment beyond the classroom, fostering adaptability, empathy, and global awareness. We actively encourage families from all backgrounds to participate in our cultural events, sharing in the richness of our community and helping to create an inclusive environment where every student can thrive.

As we look ahead, we wish our school a successful, joyous, and prosperous Year of the Horse.





Community Iftar

Breaking Fast, Building Community: Celebrating Iftar Together at NLCS (Singapore)

This March, during the blessed month of Ramadan, our campus welcomed families from across our community for our annual Community Iftar—a gathering that continues to embody respect, generosity, and the shared spirit of togetherness. This year, our parent committee brought fresh ideas to the table, introducing date tasting, DIY Tasbeeh, and traditional live music to accompany the Iftar, creating an evening that was both meaningful and memorable.



A great deal of the Iftar's warmth and flavour came from families at home, who thoughtfully prepared dishes to cater for all taste buds. Children's smiles and laughter filled the room as they decorated crescent moon cookies or coloured festive designs, adding a joyful, hands-on element to the evening. Mr. AlSaqqa's stall, where names were beautifully translated into Arabic, was especially popular, with outcomes that delighted both young and old and became treasured keepsakes from the night.



A special thank you to Isra (G4) for taking to the stage and opening our event with a few heartfelt words about what Ramadan means. Her reflection reminded us all of the spirit of the month—generosity, gratitude, and connection—and set a meaningful tone for the evening ahead.

As with every year, our Community Iftar reaffirmed that when we gather with respect, openness, and love, the light of our community shines brighter than ever.



FOUNDER'S DAY

27th March 2026

On the last day of Term 2, North London Collegiate School (Singapore) came together to honour a remarkable legacy on Founder's Day. This annual celebration commemorates the visionary Frances Mary Buss, founder of NLCS UK, and her pioneering contributions to education.

This year's Founder's Day held special significance, as it marked the fifth anniversary of our vibrant Depot Road campus, now home to over 1,400 students. The spirit of the day was one of joy, reflection, and togetherness, creating moments that will be cherished by our school community.

A highlight of the celebration was the heartwarming Daffodil Procession. Our Grade 5 and 6 students paired with our youngest learners from First School, walking hand in hand to symbolise the nurturing and supportive environment that our school embodies.

This year also saw a new tradition take root, as parents were welcomed onto campus for the first-ever Founder's Day Community Coffee Morning. Over a delicious morning tea, parents and members of the Senior Team, alongside our student leaders and ONLs, had the opportunity to connect, and celebrate together. The event fostered a strong sense of belonging and highlighted the integral role families play in our school community.

As we look back on this year's Founder's Day, we celebrate not only Frances Mary Buss's enduring legacy in education but also the thriving, dynamic community that makes NLCS (Singapore) unique. With each generation of students, staff, and families, the traditions and values of NLCS continue to flourish—hand in hand, just as they did on this special day.

As Term 2 draws to a close, we thank you for your continued partnership. For those who celebrate, we wish you a very Happy Easter, and to all, a peaceful and restorative break.





SAVE THE DATE

Term 3: Event Calendar

Be sure to save the date for these upcoming activities and keep an eye on the **Buss Brief every Friday at 4pm** for the latest updates, details, and announcements.

APRIL

Family Games Night: 18 April

NLCS (Singapore) Young Musician Heats:
25 - 26 April

MAY

Annual Gala Dinner: 9 May

Grade 12 Graduation: 26 May

JUNE

GANU Sale: 3 June

Lower School Swim Gala: 3 June

NLCS (Singapore) Young Musician Concerto
Final: 7 June

Junior School & Senior School Sports Awards: 10
June

Arts Festival: 15 - 19 June

Summer Festival: 19 June

Grade 5 Celebration: 22 June

Performing Arts Award Ceremony: 23 June

Early Years Picnic: 23 June



NLCS | Singapore |

ONLY TRUE SUPERHEROES WILL SURVIVE!

GAMES NIGHT

18 APRIL 4.30 - 7PM

BINGO - KAHOOT! - GUESS THE SUPERHERO
- BEST COSTUME COMPETITION

WELCOME DRINK &
FOOD INCLUDED

LECTURE THEATRE

\$12 PER
TICKET

SCAN
ME





NLCS (Singapore) Young Musician 2026

An international music competition for talented young musicians aged 18 and under from Singapore and across Asia.

North London 
Collegiate School
| Singapore |

Looking ahead, excitement is building for the NLCS (Singapore) Young Musician 2026, taking place on 25th and 26th April. These live heats, ahead of the June Finals, will feature 60 outstanding musicians selected from over 200 applicants across Asia, reflecting an exceptionally high standard of performance. Across four rounds—Junior, Intermediate, Senior, and Advanced—audiences can expect a dynamic and inspiring showcase of young musical talent. We are honoured to welcome an outstanding panel of adjudicators: Cho Hang Oh, Nicholas Ong, Yoong Han Chan, and Joshua Tan.

This promises to be a remarkable celebration of excellence, ambition, and artistry. Tickets are available via Eventbrite.

North London 
Collegiate School
| Singapore |

 @nlcssg  @nlcs.sing  @nlcs_singapore