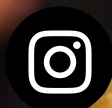




DULWICH COLLEGE
| SINGAPORE |

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Dulwich Diaries *Magazine*





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Message from the Head of College

Welcome back to our second issue of the new Dulwich Diaries magazine. Like most people, I am amazed at how quickly the second half of the term has gone: now that we have the freedom to *reconnect*, *rediscover* and *reignite*, the weeks have flown by in a flurry of sporting fixtures, music concerts, drama & dance performances, community gatherings and service activities. Above all, we have enjoyed numerous social events, which are so important for the cohesion and ambience of the whole College. I remain indebted to our Friends of Dulwich and Parent Reps, for taking the time to organise these wonderful get togethers – our parents really are the most supportive and fun in Singapore!

In this issue, amongst other things, you will find a behind the scenes look at the Green School in Bali (now part of our EIM Education in Motion group of schools), an interview with an alum studying medicine at NUS and an insight into the many leadership opportunities that students benefit from throughout DUCKS, Junior School and Senior School. I wonder if there are other topics you'd like to read about? If so, do drop me a line, or stop me for a chat, and we can include in the next issue.

To our new families who joined this year – I hope by now you feel more settled and are thriving at school, at home, at work and beyond. As you swap your new parent pink lanyards for current parent green lanyards, take a minute to give yourselves a pat on the back. Come January you will be the old hands, so be sure to share your new-found knowledge and friendship with any pink lanyard 'newbies' you spot at the Clocktower Café, as we welcome 60 new students and their families to the College.

In the meantime, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a restful holiday. We will see you in the New Year – refreshed, recharged and ready to go!

Warmest Regards,

Nick Magnus

Head of College



Friends of Dulwich

By David Sharratt,
Chair Friends of Dulwich



Tempus fugit. This past term was full of engagements and events for FoD. A few highlights below to jog your memories with the promise of more to come next term, especially our [Masquerade Ball](#) being held at the Ritz Carlton on 25 February 2023. Places limited to 600, so sign up via the link to secure your place!

We welcomed Dr Neil Forrest from Osler Health International to talk to parents about wellbeing and mental health topics. This drew well over 100 parents to the Alleyn Theatre. On the subject of Mental Health, we were so heartened to see parents and students participate in the DCSG Moves For Hope initiative which took place over the month of October. We all came together to raise money for a wonderful cause. I myself did 150km on bike rollers, which I shall never do again! All in we raised just over \$9,000 for [Limitless](#). We also saw the return of our annual Bake Sale and raised another \$7500 towards the [Singapore Cancer Society](#). Our Dulwich Family truly rallied together to raise money and awareness for two wonderful charities – thank you all kindly.

This term also saw the resumption



of the Quiz & Curry Night – and we blew the former record out the park when 320 parents descended on the PAC. A special thanks to the Events team, Sodexo and especially Mark our quizmaster.

It was fantastic to see parents, staff and children reconnecting and rediscovering the fun of the Christmas Market on Friday 25 November. With more than 1,700 people in attendance from our wonderfully diverse Dulwich family, and 35+ parent-vendor stalls, it was the perfect place for shopping, socialising and of course playing. Special shoutout to the students who 'rocked around the Clock' Tower Café, with live music and karaoke, all of which they organised themselves. Thank you to everyone who came together to make this a truly memorable event to round off the term – please do give us your feedback for next year [here](#).



LIVE WORLDWISE.™

Student Leadership

By Georgie Porter,
Head of Global Citizenship (Senior School)

It has been a busy term for Student Leadership across the College. In the Junior School, our Student Leaders have been attending weekly meetings since the beginning of October and received their pins during the recent Leadership Assembly. Their ideas are already beginning to make meaningful change in the Junior School. For example, our Sustainability Ambassadors have instructed all classes to create recycling bins for their classrooms, whilst the Community Ambassadors asked classes to vote on which of the five Global Citizenship pillars (Environmental Sustainability; Wellbeing; Intercultural Understanding; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Social Justice) the Junior School should raise money for at the Christmas Fair. All groups are ensuring their ideas will help the school to Reconnect-Rediscover-Reignite.



Each school is in a slightly different place in their recruitment and activity, and there's so much going on! In DUCKS Year 2 the application process involved children submitting videos or drawings. Using the UN Sustainable Development Goals (the Good Life Goals), the children spoke about issues close to their hearts, what changes they would like to make

and how they might make them. From this, we have two groups of dedicated students promoting meaningful changes to make the world a better place. Year 2's Global Guardians and the Compassionate Community have begun their leadership positions and are about to embark upon a journey of leadership and transformation across DUCKS.



In Senior School, the DCSG Changemakers programme runs from January to December and so we are celebrating the success of our out-going cohort. Many successful projects have been initiated and delivered since January such as collecting 20 bags of goods for a food bank drive, improving the availability and effectiveness of recycling bins around the Senior School, beginning an IGCSE Mentoring CCA, collecting and recycling used pens, and becoming a World Wildlife Fund WWF-accredited school. Thank you and congratulations to all of our 2022 Student Leaders, especially to Veer Bhanchawat and Nicole De Meo for leading our community through the last year.

Forest School

Preparing for Adventure

By Alex Hall-Gray
*DUCKS Outdoor Learning
 Teacher and FSLI-certified Forest
 School Leader*

The roots of Forest School lie within the Scandinavian concept of 'Friluftsliv', which roughly translates as 'open-air living', and encapsulates not only a one-ness with the environment, but also a person's ability to operate within it competently. On any fine



(or rainy) day, you will see a merry band of DUCKS children in wellies (gumboots) and outside play clothes, exploring the natural world around them. This may include jumping in puddles, learning how to build a fire, identifying animals, insects and plants, and even sawing wood.

The children love it, but it's not just fun – they are learning key life skills such as tenacity, safety, ethics (both personal and environmental), self-reflection, lateral thinking skills, value judgement and risk management. What's more, the children decide what they would like to do based on their personal passions, and the teacher then identifies the learning opportunities, fostering voracious learners, strong leaders and empathetic human beings in the process.

Dulwich was the first international school in Singapore to introduce Forest School, accredited by the UK's Forest School Learning Initiative (FSLI), and is pioneering the movement here to provide real world learning and problem-solving opportunities to young children in a natural environment. The landscape itself provides both the stimulus and the arena of learning and has myriad positive effects on children's physical and mental wellbeing. To find out more about Forest School, click [here](#).



Students have been **reigniting** their passion for sports this year with a busy programme for the entire College, whilst our parents have **rediscovered** the joy of cheering on their children from the sidelines, as we **reconnect** with other international schools across Singapore for competitive fixtures.

In Junior School, the U11 Basketball, U10 Netball, U9 Football and the House and Inter-School Cross Country have been resounding successes, with the U11 Basketball Boys unbeaten all year. Meanwhile, DUCKS have been practising and then taking part in their action-packed Duathlon.

The broad-ranging programme in Senior School has also paid dividends, with unbeaten seasons for the 1st XI Boys Football and 2nd XI Girls Football, and the U15 Girls winning the hotly contested BISP Soccer 7s tournament at the British International School in Phuket. The U14 Rugby dominated Division One to become

Sports

By Kevin Shaw, *Director of Sport*

ACSIS Champions, and both the U14 and U17 Rugby teams both qualified for the SCC 7s finals on the Padang.

The Upper and Middle Senior School Cross Country teams were the best in Singapore, claiming U16 Boys first place (individual) and winning both the U16 Girls and U16 Boys (team ranking), plus overall school winner at the ACSIS 5km race at Bedok Reservoir.

Our Golf Team also won the ACSIS title, with our Volleyball team finishing second in the SEASAC competition, our Badminton Team unbeaten all season and our Senior



Netballers dominating the Sneakers Netball Festival. Our Swimmers also performed impressively in the DCSG and the ACSIS High School swim meets.

Off the pitch, we all enjoyed meeting and listening to Adam Hollioake, former England Cricket Captain, and our Ignite Sport students have been developing their culinary skills with a nutrition workshop to learn how best to prepare and re-fuel after exercise.

Finally, a group of students have been working with and supporting delightful students with the Atlas Foundation. What a difference this has made to so many people's young lives. Sport really does have the power to bring people together.



Performing Arts

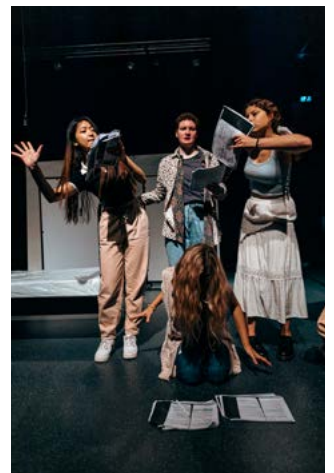
By Kat Hegarty,
Director of Performing Arts

What a busy and creative term in the Performing Arts! In DUCKS, there have been incredible Nativity and Diwali performances for all year groups; it's been wonderful to see DUCKS back on stage. In addition, it has been fantastic to see our Senior School Ignite! students work with Year 2 drama students in the Shooting Stars CCA.

In Junior School, one of the highlights has been watching Year 6 produce a fantastic Diwali assembly complete with Bollywood dancing and entertaining drama. Year 5 take the baton next with their Christmas festivities and we cannot wait to see what they have in store for us. Our wonderful Ignite! students have now taken over the direction of the Year 3 and 4 Dulwich Sparks; we can't wait to see their work!

In the Senior School, the IBCP (IB Careers-related Programme) students have attended workshops on 'Preparing for Film School,' participated in various film competitions and are preparing a theatre trailer and documentary for the upcoming Oliver Twist performance. The students also participated in The Plastic Project, developing their knowledge and understanding of Sustainable Theatre. Year 12 IBDP Theatre students have also been incredibly busy preparing for their stunning performance of Pool No Water by Mark Ravenhill, where they all took on performer and director roles.

The Dance Department has been busy with examinations and numerous CCAs throughout the college. One standout event this term was the African Dance



project by Ignite! student Abigail Lee. Click [here](#) to find out more.

Our Musical Theatre CCA students are excited to announce that in March, they will be performing 'A School Musical': a musical revue showcasing the talents of students from Year 7 to Year 13. This will be a funny and heart-warming exploration of school life, with lots of songs from well-known musicals thrown in. To find out more, please click [here](#).

Music

By Canice Gleeson,
Director of Music

It has been a very busy term for the Music department **reigniting** music daily across the whole College in its many different forms and genres, in classes, assemblies and rehearsals. Our choirs, numerous ensembles and soloists have picked up where they left off and have not skipped a beat sharing their enthusiasm and talent with communities within and outside the College.

As we honoured those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, Remembrance Day saw four outstanding and moving performances by Senior School and Junior School students in the Performing Arts Centre's Allyn Theatre. Music was also performed by Junior and Senior School students in the PAC Foyer, complementing the beautiful poppy display created by the Art & Design Technology department.



The Chamber Choir participated in the early morning Kranji Memorial Remembrance Day Service alongside choirs from Tanglin Trust School, Dover Court International School and Marlborough College Malaysia. Upcoming performances for the Chamber Choir include The British Chamber of Commerce Christmas Ball and the Friends of Dulwich Christmas Fair.

The Philharmonic Orchestra participated in the filming of a new whole college video, and I had the pleasure of recording a podcast with music producer and publisher Roo Pigott, as part of our Live Worldwide: Life Beyond School series. The episode can be found [here](#) and on Spotify.

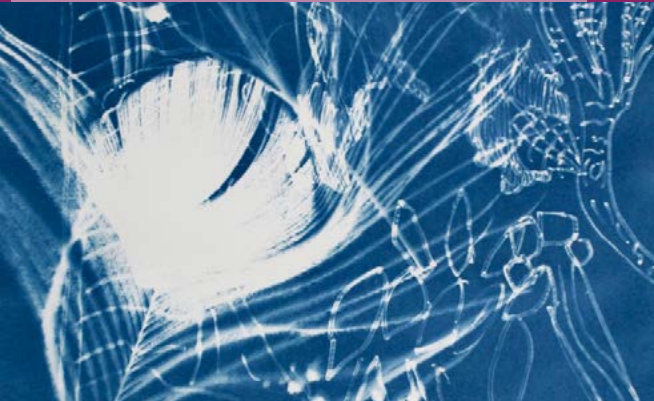
It has been a wonderful end of term with DUCKS Nativities, Year 2 Show, Junior School and Senior School Music Showcases, all dazzling us with their display of talent and love of performing.

Finally, we can now look forward to the 'Spirit of Christmas' concert at 6pm on Thursday 8 December 2022. The show will also be livestreamed – look out for the [link](#). The programme will feature well-known Christmas classics performed by ensembles and choirs from across the College. Christmas joy is guaranteed!

For more information on the many groups and ensembles on offer, please visit the Music page on the Parent Portal or email Music.Singapore@dulwich.org.

Visual Art and Design & Technology

By Kathryn Hall, *Director of Art & DT*



Visual Art and Design & Technology encompass a wide range of disciplines. The College offers provision for students to follow their passions through courses and working with professionals. Year 1 high potential artists in DUCKS recently had a visit from Vijaya Mohan, Guinness World Record Holder for the largest rangoli pattern ever created, as part of their Deepavali topic, while Year 3 hosted the STPI gallery to learn about cyanotype printmaking.

Lower Senior School had the opportunity to take part in a cross-curricular EiM STEAM festival and collaborated to solve real-world problems. Tackling the challenge of



food security in Singapore, Years 7 and 8 impressed the judges with their innovative ideas. We would like to thank Sodexo for their support in highlighting the issue of food waste and HE Kara Owen, British High Commissioner to Singapore, for judging and providing insights into the topic from a global perspective.

Students in Years 8, 11 and 13 will soon be considering their next steps in learning. Choosing options in Art and Design Technology will equip them with diverse and transferable skills which integrate creativity, independence and problem solving. In addition to GCSE and IB Diploma courses in Visual Arts and Design Technology, we are excited to offer two IB Careers Programme pathways: the UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative Practice and the BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Engineering. Both courses allow students to fully immerse themselves in their interests, from fashion to aeronautical design, in preparation for the world of work or university-level study.

Where do graduates from our Art and Design departments go? Dulwich alumni from across the group are developing successful careers in the creative industries worldwide and working in fields as diverse as architecture, illustration, art direction, concept art, fine art, curation and human interface design. Click on the link below for details.



[Where will Art & Design take you?](#)

It certainly has been an exciting term in DUCKS, with our performance showcase events taking centre stage. The fabulous Year 1 Deepavali performances and Christmas Nativity performances have meant that, with the exception of Toddlers, every year group has taken part in a performance this term. Toddlers have loved going to the Alleyn Theatre to watch the performances, ready for next year when they will be in the Nursery Nativity.

DUCKS Roundup

By Joanne Woodward,
Head of DUCKS

In addition to developing children’s academic ability through our teaching, developing children’s skills through the Arts is an essential part of our curriculum. The self-belief, confidence and high-quality performances that our children have demonstrated on stage, really is impressive for such young children. As Mr Magnus correctly pointed out, “They certainly haven’t lost their stage presence following COVID!”



The wonderful performances reinforce our belief that with high expectations, children can do anything they believe they can, and this self-belief underpins excellent learning. Through specialist music lessons, children are taught the necessary skills to sing, act and perform confidently in front of an audience. **Reigniting** this passion for stage performance in our children has been incredibly rewarding for everyone involved.

Our Reception children enjoyed their first school trip of the year, venturing out to the Singapore Repertory Theatre to watch *The Tortoise and The Hare*. The event was wonderfully supported by parents with over 60 volunteers. It was a fabulous day of fun, learning and collaboration for all involved and the adults certainly **rediscovered** their love of school trips and learning off site.



Increased parental engagement has also been a continued focus for us here in DUCKS with our parent ‘Stay and Play’ sessions proving hugely successful. Through these sessions, our parents have an opportunity to **reconnect** and put themselves in their children’s shoes for the morning. The popularity of these sessions has grown over the term and are now an integral part of what we do. Feedback from our parents has been positive and it has been wonderful to see so many of you in our classrooms.

Junior School Roundup

By Nick Bevington,
Head of Junior School

Visits and trips are an important part of the Junior School curriculum and stepping out of school is both memorable and powerful. Learning comes alive and gives students context and the opportunity to enjoy meaningful experiences.



When learning about communities, **Year 3** visited Edible Garden City. One of their beliefs is that growing food gives people the opportunity to reconnect with nature, conserve natural resources and cultivate a sense of community. The trip gave students a real insight into how gardens can bring community members together and also gave them first-hand experience of plants that grow well in Singapore. Year 3 are now in the final stage of their project where they are designing a garden for a community member in Singapore.



In connection with the innovation unit, **Year 4** had the opportunity to visit the Future Makers Exhibition at the Science Centre. Here, the children learnt more about how different inventions have been created to solve real-life problems. The trip provided fantastic inspiration for the children's own inventions.



Year 5 students loved going to either Kampong Glam, China Town or Little India and were excited to share their newly found knowledge with their peers upon returning to the classroom. Tour guides shared so many nuggets of information with the students about the rich cultures of Singapore. All of this was utilised as they researched what makes Singapore what it is today and was the basis of their own non-chronological reports.

Some of the **Year 6** Mandarin class students have been travel journalists. Other Year 6 Mandarin classes have been learning how to make travel plans. Seeing the real Beijing through a virtual tour with a real guide that included famous landmarks such as Summer Palace and Forbidden City has helped the travel writers have a deeper understanding, use the correct vocabulary and write with purpose and authenticity.

During the Year 6 Adventure Week, the children were pushed out of their comfort zones and had a fantastic week of biking, kayaking and so much more. It was a great opportunity to build relationships, practise resilience and learn how to be organised and independent in a practical environment. With links to the concepts of sustainability and community, it also gave the children a chance to see how their learning in the classroom relates to the real world.

At Dulwich College (Singapore) we understand the greatest lessons are often outside the classroom!

Senior School Roundup

By Mel Ellis,
Head of Senior School

Our Core Business

I have had the pleasure this week of being able to take some time to walk the building. This is a privilege of this role; the fact that I get to wander in and out of classrooms is an absolute gift and is an opportunity to engage directly with what we are all about: Teaching and Learning.

When it comes to our core business, we are guided by our Learning Principles. These reflect best practice and are common across all of the EiM schools. I set myself a challenge on my walk this week – *could I find examples of each of the learning principles in random classes on the fourth floor of Senior School?*



Learning is effective when it has a clear purpose

(Student Ownership and Responsibility)

Students in this Year 12 Biology Class were guiding each other through a review of biological molecules (it was good to see chemistry in here too!). Under the watchful eye of Ms. Scambler, students tested each other to uncover the fundamentals of structure and type of molecules.



Learning is effective when it is adaptive and applied

(Connections and Transfer)

Students in this Year 9 Drama class were synthesising and applying their skills in a devised piece; at this point each student was practising their monologue as part of this and the sense of 'togetherness' in this process was palpable.



Learning is effective when it is personalised

(Feedback and Meaningful, Challenging Practice)

Technology has provided us with a superb range of tools to gather information about learning in the moment in a classroom, so that feedback to the student can be immediate and they can continue their learning from the most appropriate starting point. These students were using 'Quizizz' in Mandarin to do a check in on vocabulary in their current topic, with scores and responses visible to Wu Laoshi throughout.



Learning is effective when it is relational

(Collaboration and Positive Learning Relationships)

These students in Year 13 were preparing for their oral assessments, and part of the success of this depends on the students feeling comfortable and safe to take risks and have a go. That was apparent in this Spanish classroom that I visited.

Four rooms, four learning principles in action. Result!

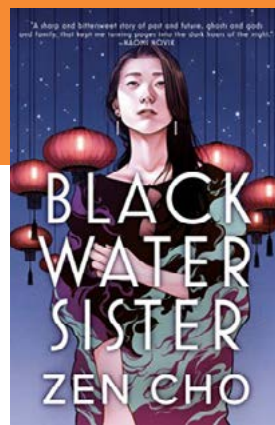
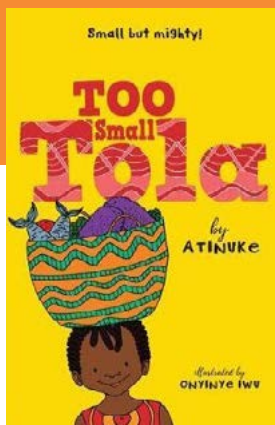
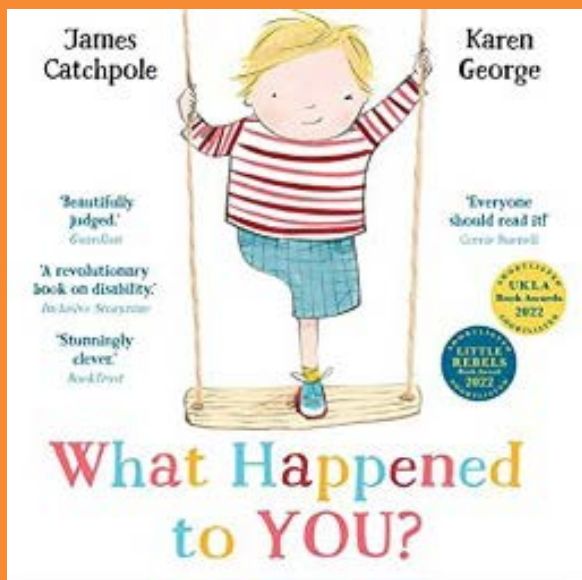
Libraries

By Kimberley Fyffe,
Director of Libraries



We want readers to encounter characters with agency, who are identifiable, relatable, nuanced, varied and central to the narrative.

– Centre for Literacy in Primary Education
'Reflecting Realities'



We hope you've had a chance to visit our libraries during Non-Fiction November to enjoy the shortlisted titles for the [Dulwich Information Book Award](#). This event has provided an opportunity to celebrate the abundance of high quality literary and informative non-fiction supporting our Global Citizenship goals.

Our libraries have received their annual orders this month and it is exciting to be promoting plenty of new literature that reflects the diverse realities of our reading community. It is encouraging to see a conscious effort by publishers to ensure authentic, meaningful inclusion of a diverse range of characters, settings and content. Diversifying our book collections is part of our DCSG libraries reading engagement strategy, it is one of the many subtle but crucial changes we are making in the perpetual challenge to take Dulwich libraries from good to great.

Our strategy is inspired by [Dr Rudine Sims Bishop](#) who advocates that all children should have opportunities to experience

'mirrors, windows and sliding glass doors' through reading. Not only should children be able to see themselves in literature, they should also be able to experience people, cultures and worlds beyond their own. Reading is a powerful tool for developing empathy and exposure to diverse books, wider perspectives and #ownvoices can deepen and enrich a reader's understanding of the world and their place in it.

December sees the launch of the [Red Dot Book Award titles for 2022/23](#). This book award is a collaborative initiative of the International School Librarians Network (ISLN) in Singapore and has been a key event in our library calendar since 2017. Our Red Dot Book Award events promote shared reading of high-quality diverse literature. DCSG will again participate in the [ISLN Readers Festival](#), a fun inter-school event that facilitates reading-based exchanges across participating schools in Singapore.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Dylan Chang

DCSG Graduating Class of 2020
Medical Student at NUS



After graduating from Dulwich College (Singapore) in 2020, National Service was an eye-opening experience that taught me many valuable lessons and skills that I still use to this day as I undergo my undergraduate studies in medicine at the National University of Singapore (NUS). When first starting National Service, I found it difficult to integrate myself alongside my fellow platoon mates due to my international background (and accent!). Nonetheless, they all had an open mind and a friendly attitude, and by working together through the hardships of Basic Military Training (and later Specialist Cadet School), I was able to make valuable friendships that exposed me to new perspectives.

During my National Service I was a combat medic specialist that trained combat medics to be posted out into units and medical centres all around the Singapore Armed Forces. From my National Service experience, I picked up the discipline to maintain healthy habits I learnt whilst training, and an improved ability to work under stress and adapt on the fly.



Initially adapting from the social environment of Dulwich to National Service was a big jump as the people around me came from very different social, educational, and cultural backgrounds. Additionally, I felt there was an extra layer of difficulty stemming from the need to prepare for university applications, entrance exams and interviews whilst undergoing training and carrying out my duties as a specialist. After National Service, the biggest obstacle when transitioning to university was becoming accustomed again to an academic environment, however, with diligence and support from the new friends I made over various orientation camps, I had a smooth transition back into academia!

For my future in medicine, I currently plan to graduate and specialise in a medicine-based field such as Cardiology or Internal Medicine.



Family of Schools

Green School Bali

EiM
Education
in Motion



Last year, Education in Motion (the founding group of Dulwich College International) acquired two new schools: Green School in Bali and HIF: Hochalpinen Institut Ftan, an international boarding school in Switzerland. This presents amazing new opportunities for collaboration, the first of which sees 15+ of our Year 9 students going off to Switzerland in January to spend a term in the beautiful alpine setting.

Of course Green School Bali is well known and long admired in Singapore, and building on this new group connection, it is hoped that similar arrangements can be made for students of all ages to visit not only the founding school in Bali, but also the sister Green Schools in New Zealand and South Africa.

So what exactly is the concept of Green School? Launched in 2008 in Ubud, Bali, by co-founders John and Cynthia Hardy, [Green School](#) is a network of progressive private international schools focused on educating changemakers who will make our world sustainable. Every Green School is built from locally and sustainably-sourced materials, with an indoor-outdoor campus intentionally designed to keep students consistently connected to their natural environment. Beyond the environmental

construction credentials, the school has a mighty mission: to address the biggest issues of our time through everyday learning and action.

Of course, traditional subjects like English, Maths, Science and Languages are still taught in this school without walls, but the emphasis is on creativity, self-direction, and igniting the natural curiosity of children: educating them about global problems to prepare them for the realities of the world today and tomorrow. Tenets central to this approach include taking action by doing rather than talking, and not preaching to others about a problem which you have yet to resolve in your own backyard.

Students work on 'Greenstone projects' with local communities, devising plans to address current challenges like climate change and inequality. Many alumni have already gone on to do great things, as climate campaigners and founders of sustainable businesses, walking the corridors of the UN and World Economic Forum as invited guests and speakers.

With Green Schools set to open in other locations around the world, it is the Founders' sincere hope that their approach to education becomes the norm, rather than the exception.



DULWICH COLLEGE

| SINGAPORE |

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"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today"
– John Maxwell Edmunds 1918