



**DULWICH COLLEGE**  
| SINGAPORE |

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# Dulwich Diaries *Magazine*





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## Message from the Head of College

Welcome to the last edition of our Dulwich Diaries Magazine for this academic year. Once again, the following pages will attempt to capture all the wonderful events and opportunities that have been made available to our students during the Trinity term.

Highlights for me include our sporting success at ACSIS and FOBISIA competitions. We have been inclusive in that we have fielded as many teams as possible but exclusive in that we recognise the need for competition and pit ourselves against the best opposition that we can from all over Asia.

Once again, The Alley Theatre welcomed packed houses for our Dance Showcase, the Junior School production of *The Greatest Show* and the Senior School performance of *Lion Boy*. Intercultural Understanding was also at the fore as Year 3 shared their Hari Raya Puasa celebrations with us at the conclusion of Ramadan.

It's been a busy term academically, with our Year 13s negotiating their finals and our Year 11s taking on their IGCSEs. In addition, there were celebrations to mark graduation, the end of Year 11 and the transition from DUCKS to Junior School and Junior School to Senior School.

The main event of the term was undoubtedly our Founder's Day week with Art and Design exhibitions, stage performances, STEAM workshops, our Founder's Day Concert, and DUCKS spent the week at the Circus! However, it was truly quite emotional as we all came together as the Dulwich family for our first live, face-to-face Founder's Day on Saturday 10 June, to celebrate all that makes us uniquely Dulwich. It was a special occasion and, for many, their first taste of the whole Dulwich experience.

This year you were challenged to reconnect, rediscover and reignite and you have all embraced that magnificently.

Warmest Regards,

**Nick Magnus**

*Head of College*





## Friends of Dulwich

By Jules Sumner,  
*Chair Friends of Dulwich*

The Trinity term was a bustling period for Friends of Dulwich (FoD) and the wider College community. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), our community reflected on the achievements of the past year and the triumphant return to pre-pandemic activities. These endeavours not only enhanced the College's social scene but also raised an impressive \$125,000 for charity.

At the AGM, we bid farewell to departing committee members and welcomed Jules Sumner as the new Chairperson and Kris Parkinson as the Vice-Chair. We also extended our gratitude to the nationality's representatives, who brought vibrant celebrations to the College, such as Thingyan and Songkran, showcasing the spirit of multiculturalism.

The FoD's commitment to meaningful parent involvement continued through initiatives like packing 290 art kits for donation to Love, NILS and revitalising vegepods in DUCKS with the help of our Year 2 Global Guardians. Community gatherings, including our Coffee &



Conversation series with esteemed authors Juliana Mamoni, Namita Moolani Mehra and Kehinde Felipe, and the launch of the FoD Book Club, fostered connections and intellectual engagement.

The Coronation of King Charles III was commemorated with an Afternoon Tea attended by 200 guests and two days of engaging activities for over 500 students. The Curry & Quiz night was another successful event, raising over \$5,000 for Habitat for Humanity – we also introduced the second edition of our Dulwich's seasonal gins at the event!

Look out for a fresh calendar of familiar and new events at the start of the next academic year in late August!





## LIVE WORLDWISE.™ Global Citizenship

By Polly Clayton, Director of Global Citizenship  
& Toni Astridge, CAS Coordinator



The IBDP CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) Programme is a core component of the IB Diploma Programme. It is designed to encourage students to engage in meaningful and purposeful activities outside of their academic studies. It aims to develop student's personal and interpersonal skills, fostering their growth as responsible, compassionate, and active citizens.

As our Year 13 students head off into the wider world, it has been an excellent time to reflect on how CAS has allowed them to grow as members of our community. Through the service component, several students collaborated with local charities. For example, *Project Alleviate* supported *It's Raining Raincoats* by providing kindness notes and care packages and organising a donation drive to address the needs of migrant workers. This group reflected on the importance of actively connecting with the marginalised in our society – to genuinely address what they needed rather than what we think they needed.

My experience with CAS has been an extremely beneficial one. Although my involvement may have started on a rough slope (downwards!), in the end, I began to really enjoy it as I was learning new skills and discovering more about myself and the unfamiliarity of the world around me. CAS has allowed me to develop an increased understanding of the extent of my current abilities, as well as aiding me in realising my potential. I wasn't aware of the prolonged perseverance and commitment I could pour into an experience. I am especially proud of this achievement throughout the CAS programme.

– Year 13 CAS student

The *Love, NILS* project team organised a Senior School-wide submission of friendship letters for children with cancer, their parents, and medical staff. They also organised a Slime Party to fundraise for toy donations and worked alongside *Project Ikigai* to give engaging enrichment sessions to children affected by cancer. These groups reflected on how small acts of kindness can lift the mental health and wellbeing of those around us.

Ultimately, CAS is a unique and worthwhile journey for all students, and it is not until they sit down for their final reflection at the end of 18 months that they acknowledge and are proud of what they have achieved on top of all the other requirements of the Diploma Programme. Reflecting on these experiences is vital in developing self-awareness and becoming influential global citizens, so well done to all our IBDP students for their efforts and time spent on their own CAS journeys.

# Learning Beyond the Classroom

By David Jewitt  
Acting Director of Learning  
Beyond the Classroom

Our inaugural Ignite: Switzerland cohort graduated and returned from Hochalpinen Institut Ftan (HiF) in April, having made life-long memories, and forged new friendships with students across our family of schools. We are now counting down to the start of the 'Rock' term in September, when twenty of our students begin their twelve weeks in the Swiss Alps.



As the final CCA season of the year draws to a close, we look forward to the next academic year and the launch of our new annual calendar and 'Core' programme, a College-directed portfolio of inclusive, deliberate and free CCAs.

Our Outdoor Education programme has been packed this term with students camping, cycling, and paddling across Singapore. We were incredibly proud of our Year 10 International Award students, who all completed their challenging five-day 'Adventurous Journey' last month.

Together with Heads of Year, we have been busy visiting locations for our overseas adventure weeks next year. These promise to be as exciting as they are challenging; we look forward to sharing more details in August.



It has been an exceptional year for Dulwich College (Singapore) (DCSG) in the realm of sports teams, as they made a triumphant return following the COVID-induced hiatus. Not only has DCSG secured more ACSIS 1st division titles than any other school in Singapore, but they have also fielded more teams, ensuring that every student who aspires to represent the College has had the opportunity to do so.

# Sports

By Kevin Shaw,  
Director of Sport

The school's U13 and U11 athletes competed remarkably well in the fiercely competitive FOBISIA sports category. The netball and rugby teams have also shone in the FOBISIA invitational tournaments. House sports events, including standout athletics competitions for both the Senior and Junior schools, have provided ample enjoyment for all. Our DCSG swimmers have also had their fair share of success at ACSIS and various invitational meets.



Even the youngest students in DUCKS have delighted in friendly competitions, with their House Sports Days proving immensely popular among students and parents alike. Witnessing the students relish these opportunities in line with the Dulwich traits of being *Determined, Courageous, Skilful, and Gracious* has been genuinely wonderful. Congratulations to everyone involved, and heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support. Dulwich sports are back in full swing, and the anticipation for next year's experiences, with the Olympiad as a particular highlight, is palpable.





It has once again been another busy musical term. In DUCKS, our Year 1 pupils wowed their audience with a musical showcase, featuring songs from around the world. It was also the debut of the 'Take a Bow' Strings Ensemble and Year 1 and 2 Choirs. In preparation for the King's Coronation, pupils in Reception

## Music

By Canice Gleeson,  
*Director of Music*



and Year 2 had the opportunity to learn about brass instruments from a special guest trumpeter, David Marley. Four of our DUCKS pupils performed solos, alongside the Senior School Allegro Strings at the Big Lunch for the King's Coronation at the British High Commission. Huge congratulations to Wenhui, Jonathan, Christopher, Candice and Zhangming in Year 2, who played with such confidence alongside Junior and Senior School students in the finals of the DCSG Musician of the Year 2023.

Junior School hosted our Spring Showcase on 24 May, featuring the 'Camerata' advanced string ensemble, Jazz Band, and various small ensembles and soloists. Ms Gayl Teo directed all the advanced string ensembles from the Year 3 and 4 class instrumental lessons. We were thrilled to have six students representing the Junior School: Alyssa, Benjamin, Holly, Tason, Alexander, and Cici shared their incredible talents to a very appreciative and proud

audience. The Junior School will be performing in our Founder's Day ceremony on Friday 9 June as well as in several end of the year events. Watch for performances at the Year 6 Graduation, Speech Days, and the Celebration Assembly.

The DCSG Musician of the Year Awards took place on 29 May, with 16 students reaching the finals. The afternoon was a showcase of incredible musical talent from all our performers, and we are so incredibly proud of their achievements. The competition was judged by musical colleagues from Tanglin Trust School who were extremely impressed with the high level of musicianship from all the performers.

The last few weeks of term were memorable thanks to our wonderful musicians performing at Founder's Day Concert and celebrations, Speech Days, Celebration Assemblies.

# Performing Arts

By Kat Hegarty,  
Director of Performing Arts



*Together We Dance* was an incredible two evenings from 160+ dancers across the Whole College, of passionate choreography to communicate the heartwarming story of a journey across the world. The audience was invited to experience styles from a multitude of cultures and traditions, including Chinese Classical, Lion Dance, Indian Bharatanatyam, Bollywood and Kathak, Thai, Balinese, Philippine Tinikling, African, Cha Cha, Salsa, Samba, Hip Hop, Breakdance, Irish, Polish Character Dance, Ballet, Contemporary and more! We learned about the importance of reading, learning and travelling to grow as a person with empathy, integrity, responsibility and respect for others and our world.



The circus was in town this term with the Junior School production of *The Greatest Show*, and The Alley Theatre was filled with laughter and light as the Year 5s took to the stage. From the moment the audience arrived in the foyer, an array of wacky characters entertained them. From singing cats to dancing cogs, the show delighted audience members of all ages, and we couldn't be more proud of the cast and crew for all their hard work!

What a rewarding journey working with the fantastically creative cast of *Lion Boy*. While workshopping this highly physical piece of storytelling theatre, we were hugely impressed with the creativity of our company producing Lion Puppets, ensemble movement sequences, vibrant characterisations, new songs, drum-beat compositions and original choreography. Exemplifying the Dulwich values of integrity, empathy and courage, Charlie critically questions the world around him, upholding his mother's motto, Nullius in Verba – 'take no one's word for it'. What a privilege to showcase this diverse company's staging of Charlie's story as he overcomes all to save his parents and the animals he loves.



This term has all been about celebrations as we reflect on the accomplishments of our students and wish our graduating cohorts the absolute best on their next adventure.

# Visual Art and Design & Technology

By Kathryn Hall, Director of Art and Design Tech



Year 13 Visual Art students welcomed parents and the College community to the Performing Arts Centre (PAC) for their final exhibition, our largest to date and a real feast for the eyes. Exploration of themes including mental health, the environment and identity were all presented poignantly, professionally, and maturely – highlighting how far our students have progressed during their time at the College. Student artist Isabel was awarded the Head of College Prize for Art for her piece called 'Fear'.

Just starting their art journey are our DUCKS Year 2 children, who all had the opportunity to visit the National Gallery and learn from docents about colour, shape and composition. We look forward to seeing their learning outcomes during Founder's Day week. Please take some time to view the exhibitions in each school's reception space, showcasing students' work across the College in Visual Art and Design and Technology.



Congratulations are also in order for our Junior School children who participated in the annual MADD (Music, Art, Drama, Dance) Festival, inspired by the Aaron Becker book *Journeys*. Students from Year 6 participated in various workshops contributing to the set design for the final performance.

Lili, our Year 11 student, also deserves a round of applause for her winning entry to the International Women's Day Digital Art competition; her portrayal of *Ruth Bader Ginsburg* was the chosen piece for the Senior Art category.



A last well done to a group of students from Years 7 to 12 – members of the Art & Design Society, who developed mural designs, which they then spent a day painting at the SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). This is an excellent example of art making a difference in our local community.



# Libraries

By Kimberley Fyffe,  
Director of Libraries

Our Library events generate excitement around literature and inspire a love of reading. Our most recent reading celebration in Junior School was our annual inter-house reading competition. The Red Dot Book House Competition is a popular event that many of our readers look forward to. Watching the children engage in collaborative book talk as they deliberate over the best response to book quiz questions is always lovely.

Students from the Junior and Senior Schools have also been participating in the *International School Library Network Readers Cup*. Over 700 International School students registered for this year's event, each reading this wonderfully diverse selection of books. This year, two Dulwich teams managed to win a place on the podium. One of our Year 3 teams competed against 33 teams from 5 international schools to earn 2nd place overall!



Our Senior School team also achieved 2nd place overall in the mature category. Our Year 5 and Year 6 teams competed valiantly against 80 other teams from 7 international schools. Congratulations to all students who participated in this event.



The DUCKS Library hosted the Reception Poetry by Heart competition. This annual event challenges students to memorise a poem at home and perform in front of an audience at school. We had 60 entrants who did well standing up in front of their classmates and reciting a poem, even more so in the library setting with Mrs Woodward, Mrs Magnus and Zhou Laoshi. There were many poems in English, several in Mandarin and one in Italian and French. Everyone received certificates, and poetry book prizes were awarded to the House winners.



Congratulations to all contestants for making the event so pleasurable. A big thank you to the parents for their support and encouragement.

# DUCKS

## Roundup

By Joanne Woodward,  
Head of DUCKS



With the theme of the 3 Rs – Reconnect, Rediscover and Reignite, this year has seen the return of inter-year group House assemblies, large get-togethers, and full-scale House events. With our newly elected Year 2 House Captains leading the way, they have enhanced how we collect House points, with a renewed focus on our Learning Bugs and Guiding Statements. The children enjoyed House Dining during House and Rainbow Snack Week, and the House Captains did an excellent job presenting their first assemblies to their peers about 'teamwork'. Additionally, all DUCKS children have had the opportunity to become artists, inputting their creations into our new digital DUCKS House mural, which can be found on the Level 3 corridor.



The Global Guardians have accomplished much this year in their quest to make the College more sustainable. As vigilant recycling monitors, they have ensured that all classrooms maintain proper recycling practices, instilling a sense of environmental responsibility in our school community. To deepen their understanding of recycling systems, the Global Guardians worked with Sodexo and Jones Lang LaSalle, learning about waste removal systems in school, including food waste. Their efforts extended beyond the classroom, as they breathed new life into our school Vegepods by planting edible plants, including sweet potato and mustard seeds.



Our DUCKS Co-Curricular Activities programme joined forces with the Senior School's Ignite! Drama students with the focus on supporting a group of Year 2 children through their first LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) examinations. The content of these focuses on developing our learners' ability to express themselves clearly, build their self-confidence, and nurture their communicative skills and interactions with adults and older students. The Year 2s were required to learn a set poem to improve their memorisation and recall and converse with a LAMDA examiner about their favourite book. We were very impressed with the children's focus, determination, and creativity throughout the sessions, particularly during the final exam. A huge thank you to our incredible team of Ignite! students for helping and supporting us throughout!

In Junior School, every student is encouraged to lead, from earning a 'Leading by Example' House point and supporting others by being a 'buddy' to a new student. Allowing students more opportunities to experience different types of leadership will enable them to flex their leadership muscles and build on skills they have learnt in previous years. We are committed to nurturing the leadership potential of our children, from DUCKS through to graduation.

We currently have 15 leadership groups that play a vital role in driving forward our College vision.



## Junior School Roundup

By Nick Bevington,  
*Head of Junior School*



The thriving student leadership programme in the Junior School, led by Junior School teacher Harry Banks, allows students to have their voices heard and make fundamental changes to how our school develops. Furthermore, students gain the tools to navigate a global society with compassion and empathy.

The leadership groups within the school empower students to speak in public, collaborate with others, and learn from people in the wider community. Workshops led by Senior School CAS students for Year 6 leaders help hone their skills. An inspiring talk by Rob Lilwall on Leadership Day was captivating. Rob cycled and walked 80,000 km of the earth's surface, and he shared that resilience and bravery are key traits of successful leaders.

The recent Leadership Fair and regular meetings chaired by the Head Students

provide excellent forums for students to showcase their achievements and collaborate with others. Student leaders have shared the benefits of being Ambassadors and members of the Student Council or House team, including being more responsible and organised, improving their public speaking, and increasing their confidence.

There is no doubt that Junior School students are being set up for success in their future endeavours as positive changemakers in the world.



# Senior School Roundup

By Melanie Ellis,  
*Head of Senior School*



This term, we have seen several transitions being made and planned for. Some of these represent significant life events, while others represent more straightforward developments and change; irrespective of the scale, they are all worth acknowledging.

We saw our Year 13 students become our graduating class of 2023. Some of these students have been with us since Year 5, and these students have weathered the ups and downs of their IB journey with us. As teachers, we are reminded at graduation time of why we came into this profession; this is the point at which we get to see the outcome of the hard work, the nurturing, the encouragement, and the care. Our graduating class of 2023 are a group of fine young people, and I feel immensely proud of all of them for what they have achieved.

We will see a few students and staff move on to new pastures at the end of this academic year. It is important not to underestimate the impact that these changes can have,

both on the leaver and on the people who are left. We must all take the time to say farewell properly, even if we know that we will be connected through the wonders of social media.

We have also been planning our transition into our new learning space, The Greenhouse. We have had students, teachers and planners involved in designing our new learning spaces, and we are all extremely excited about the opening of this resource. A highlight of last week was attending the awarding of the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Green Mark Platinum Award to DCSG for this new building and its net zero credentials. Raphael (Year 8) and Ethan (Year 9) did an excellent job with their speeches to our particularly important guests.

As we all transition from the end of this year into a new academic year, I wish you a restorative summer break.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



# Cheryl Lim

Graduating Class of 2021  
Economics Major and Psychology Minor  
at Yale-NUS College



It's been two years since I graduated from Dulwich, and these two years have been a whirlwind of lectures, late-night talks with my suitemates, concerts, travels, internships, and exams. I've experienced and learnt so much during my two years at Yale-NUS (even getting to embark on a three-week research program in France during the summer), and it's all thanks to my time at Dulwich. Ms Duce, my university counsellor at that time, played an integral part in my acceptance decision. I had applied to most of the universities in Singapore, and having been accepted to almost all of them, I had a hard time deciding. But accepting Yale-NUS' offer must have been the best decision I've made.

I've always had a passion for Economics, hence my declared major in this field, so deciding my course was an easy feat. It was something that I really enjoyed reading and learning about, so decisions regarding my course were easy. I would advise prospective university students to choose a course that they're passionate about and interested in rather than what makes the most money! As for university choices, I mostly decided based on the campus life and culture – and this is where I felt that Yale-NUS resonated the most with me, due to their integrated academic and campus life. It was compulsory to live on campus with 3 to 5 other students, which was something I've always looked forward to.

The transition from Dulwich to Yale-NUS was a particularly smooth one, perhaps because I chose my university based on how I envisioned my campus life to be (one that resembles the culture in Dulwich – a wide diversity of students and professors from around the world). During my time at Yale-NUS, my plans for the future have changed – I now hope to pursue a career in marketing at Google or Meta, and hopefully be able to relocate to different countries!



# One Family of Schools

20 years!  
A milestone!

**EiM**  
Education  
in Motion



We are immensely proud to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Dulwich College Shanghai Pudong. Starting in September 2023, the year ahead will feature several fantastic events celebrating the past and looking forward to the future.

Even as we see and acknowledge the remarkable changes which have taken place in Shanghai, in China, and in the world over the last 20 years, we are proud that our mission and vision have stood the test of time: students come



first. This has stayed the same since the very first day of the very first school year.

In the past 20 years, there have been many highlights. Our students have performed in places like the Forbidden City in Beijing and the Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre in Shanghai. They have met and learned from great thinkers, artists, and creators worldwide. They have travelled to places like Uganda and Nepal for service-learning projects. They have won countless sports trophies and academic honours. Last year, we set a record by having the highest IB average score of any private school in Mainland China. Our graduates have gone on to some of the world's most selective

universities, and they are now busily pursuing impressive careers worldwide.

But what we are most proud of is the community we have built, uniting staff, students, and parents around a common set of values encapsulated in these three simple statements: value every voice, do the right thing, and make a difference.

We look forward to our 20th-year celebrations as opportunities for our community – and that of the entire family of EiM schools – to come together, celebrate and make a difference.



# DULWICH COLLEGE

| SINGAPORE |

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