



From the Executive Principal

Dear Parents, Teachers and Staff,

Thank you to everyone for being so actively involved in what has been an incredibly busy yet rewarding semester.

During the last term, students have participated in a really wide range of academic, sporting and cultural events. Camp week, which once again was very successful, is an opportunity for students to test their skills and resilience while having some fun participating in outdoor activities. Sekolah Ciputra's first Model United Nations (SCMUN) was held in November. This year brought five schools together to work on issues around sustainability. MUN teaches students with speaking, debating, and writing skills along with critical thinking, teamwork, and leadership abilities. We look forward to this event growing over the years.

David Joseph, our first Sekolah Ciputra artist in residence, has done an amazing job. He has worked with individuals and classes as well as playing a major role in the Ciputra Hall fifth anniversary celebration and the recent and magnificent Performing Arts Festival. It is great to be able to expose the whole school community to outstanding international talent as well as have him help nurture our students. Thank you David!

I would also like to thank the Parent Support Group (PSG) on the magnificent job they do supporting us. The School Spirit Bazaar was a major event successfully engaging the whole school community. The PSG also play a role with effective communication between school and home. They have sponsored 11 parent workshops. The workshop topics have been really informative, practical and well attended. If you are unable to come, all the presentations are available on our website. Thank you again PSG and the presenters for the amazing job you are doing.

The next semester brings with it the major summative examinations with senior students facing final International Baccalaureate examinations, school examinations as well as Grades 6, 9 and 12 participating in UNAS. As I have mentioned often in my weekly articles, this is the core function of the school and

one which students need to embrace whole-heartedly.

Senior examinations are now over, reports have been issued and parent interviews completed. It is time to take a break and enjoy some time with family and friends. I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Best wishes,
Martin Blackburn

Important Dates

24 DEC-4 JAN **SEMESTER BREAK**

18 JAN **PYP 6 EXHIBITION DAY**

4-5 FEB **CHINESE NEW YEAR BREAK**

9 FEB **SCHOOL TO SCHOOL CONFERENCE**

20 FEB **GRADE 10 PP EXHIBITION**

21-23 FEB **SCHOOL PRODUCTION**

7 MAR **NYEPI**

Message from PYP

It is said that time flies when you're having fun. Well, we must have been having loads of fun in the PYP because it seems as if Semester 1 just flew by and here we are in December looking back on what has been a very busy, productive and interesting time in the PYP.

As the PYP at Sekolah Ciputra becomes a more mature and sophisticated IB programme in terms of how students learn and what kinds of experiences are provided to enrich their learning, we have turned our attention to engaging parents as true partners in teaching and learning. Throughout semester one, we have held multiple parent information sessions and workshops on topics such as Raising Creative and Independent Children, Teaching Maths in the Early Years, Teaching and Learning Mandarin in the PYP, The Inquiry Classroom and How to Engage Your Child in Reading. The feedback from these sessions has been positive as parents responded that they have a much deeper understanding of how their children learn and how they can support their children at home. We are committed to continuing this meaningful partnership with parents in Semester 2.

Once again our students have shown their capacity to be caring and responsible world citizens through their efforts to make the world a better place. Their swift response to the disasters in Lombok and Palu during which they raised money and collected much-needed food and clothing to support victims of those disasters, speaks of their empathy and caring for others less fortunate than they are. We are extremely proud of their efforts.

As I write this, our Grade 6 students are busy preparing for their PYP Exhibition, selecting topics of interest and passion for them, gathering the latest research and thinking deeply of ways in which they can express their learning in innovative and creative ways. This all means that the exhibition will be a reflection of how well we are preparing our students to be knowledgeable thinkers who can function with courage and resilience in a changing world community.

Our students have also participated in a number of competitions in Maths and Science, in futsal, in cross-country and, for the first time, some of our students participated in a biathlon organized by Surabaya European School. Despite our relatively low profile in terms of swimming abilities among our students, one of our students managed to come first in the swimming. We continue to challenge our students to try a variety of new skills offered through our SIGs and to open up their hearts and minds to every new learning experience available to them. In Semester 2 we will continue to provide a rich and engaging learning environment for the Sekolah Ciputra Community.

On behalf of the PYP, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe, peaceful and enjoyable holiday season. If you are celebrating Christmas, have a blessed and peaceful Christmas. We hope 2019 will bring much health and happiness to you and your families. See you in the New Year!

From the PYP Staff



Recently the PYP B classes have been studying plants, in particular how plants grow, how to care for them, and their general importance to us and the environment. To support the learning, teachers planned two outings in the local community.



Our first outing was to Bukit Bali Plant Nursery here in Citraland. The nursery staff were fantastic with the students. As soon as we arrived we could see the wide variety of plants that the staff nurtured. Students offered lots of thoughts and ideas of their own, and shared their knowledge of plants with the nursery staff – who were quite impressed! As teachers we were proud of their confidence, their willingness to share, and the knowledge they had already accumulated. Then each student was able to take a young plant and plant it themselves to take back to school, where we are now learning to take care of them.

Closely following our visit to the nursery was another outing to the beautiful Taman Husada, situated across from Citraland in Graha Famili. We are very grateful to the families in the area for allowing us to enter the park. Despite the fact the weather was a little wet, students set out anyway and were treated to a picturesque display of the most beautiful flowers, plants and trees. Taman Husada is also very informative, with lots of good signage helping teachers and students to understand the various different flora in the park.

JISMO Competition



On Wednesday, 21st November, 15 students from Grades 2 to 6 attended JISMO award ceremony in Singapore National Academy (SNA) Sidoarjo accompanied by our principal, Ms. Diana. This award ceremony is dedicated for the winners of Legend, Diamond, Ruby, Emerald, and Sapphire awards. The other great achievements are, one of our students, Barry Oscar Sartono received the 'Legend' award as he won the competition 3 times in a row and Sekolah Ciputra got 'School Awards' in 4th place for primary 3 category and 2nd place (Silver Trophy) for primary 4 category.

We congratulate students, teachers, and parents for this accomplishment. May this serve as a reminder to constantly strive for success.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

As the semester wraps up and marks and comments are due on ManageBac, often conversations turn to marks themselves and their 'value'. For many years I've been interested in the power of marks and how much of an indicator they truly are of students' current and future success. Much has been written, and many studies done, but suffice it to say there is overwhelming evidence we place far too much emphasis on a number that does not generally predict life success. I saw a great NY Times article the other day, on this very topic. From the article:

"The evidence is clear: Academic excellence is not a strong predictor of career excellence. Across industries, research shows that the correlation between grades and job performance is modest in the first year after college and trivial within a handful of years."

There is a movement in the US called "Teachers Going Gradeless (TGG) that, as it sounds, supports teachers in finding new and creative ways to give feedback to students without relying on a number/grade. John Hattie, to whom I refer often, works with meta-data (over 1200 meta-analyses) to determine 'effect size' (es) of various educational tools/methods/programmes/life occurrences to determine what has the greatest impact on student achievement. For example, a student's self-reported grade have the highest effect size! Students' knowledge of their own scores has a greater impact on their learning than our teacher grade-based reports. Also, homework has an effect size of .29 (.4 is the hinge point). That means, of course, homework generally has a low impact of overall student learning. In fairness, that is mostly due to the type of homework given.

One of, if not the biggest hurdle of course, is that universities around the world still use marks as the major determining factor in admitting students. Only when that changes, will any progress be made into providing students with the sort of feedback they really need, and we can stop the obsession over numbers.

A few highlights from the Semester:

- We have new official transcripts that are aimed at what universities are looking for from an IB school
- The bandwidth for HS staff has been increased to the point that ManageBac works much better; this means better communication with students and parents!
- We have a new staff appraisal system with rubric that is better suited to provide teachers with feedback on their teaching and help them grow as educators

I wish everyone a safe and rewarding break!

Rob Wilson - High School Coordinating Principal



Where
are
They
Now?

Jerry Anson
Graduation Year: 2006



What was the best thing about Sekolah Ciputra? Tell us something memorable from your time at Sekolah Ciputra.

The most memorable thing about Sekolah Ciputra is the people: the friends you interact with, the teachers you learn from, and the others who help create your unique experience. I'll always remember how friendly and approachable most people were, including the security guards, for example. We'd joke around and even play football together!

Would you recommend Sekolah Ciputra to others? If yes, what would you say about it?

Yes, Sekolah Ciputra provided me with the tools to grow and be prepared for the real world. Having an international curriculum definitely provides a unique perspective on learning.

Where did you go to university? What did you study?

I went to the University of Washington after graduating high school and obtained a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering.

What kind of work do you do?

I'm currently a data engineer at Facebook. Previously, I worked as a business intelligence analyst at Google for 8 years.

In what way the school contributes to your job right now?

I think the school prepared me well for the next step in my education, which was college abroad. Going into college I knew I was prepared for the required technical subjects and able to overcome the language barrier to continue to grow.

What advice would you give to a graduating student?

Never be afraid to be unique and try out different things! The sky's the limit. Sometimes the best life experiences and lessons come out of trying things that you never thought you would ever do.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

Following professional sports (football, American football, F1, etc.) and watching movies/TV series.

BALI MUN

Model United Nations (MUN) is one of many extra-curricular activity choices at Sekolah Ciputra. It is a simulation where students' roleplay as delegates of countries, who in reality are part of the United Nations Conference, and are assigned with different committees. In each committee, every delegate is expected to team up and form allies with other delegates, producing resolutions on a certain topic which would later be discussed and debated further with all the delegates in the committee room.

I was part of Sekolah Ciputra's MUN team and I am pleased to say that our school took part in Bali MUN's 7th Conference which was held on the 1st and 2nd of November. The conference theme was "Global Governance and the Rise of New Threats". This was a two day event filled with a very tight agenda; the first day consisted of the Opening Ceremony, Lobbying and a Social Night then continuing on to the Debate Session and Closing Ceremony on the second day.

Bali MUN wasn't only new to Sekolah Ciputra, but was also my very first experience that involved public speaking. On the first day, as I saw all the other delegates that gathered in the room, I began to lose my confidence. I started to doubt myself as I saw numerous delegates standing up tall with optimism in their eyes. Many had years of experience with MUN, leaving me feeling behind with a hollow MUN-background. My lack of experience really did show when it came to speaking up on the podium, but I am never one to give up.

Having to produce resolutions with experienced delegates who represented powerful countries and sitting between two of the most strong and potent delegates who kept on raising their placards didn't drag me down. Instead, it urged me to work and commit harder. I learned from tough situations and I broke out of my shell. Stronger delegates who often spoke up to inquire or declaim their agreements or disagreements towards a certain resolution, at times, were still disapproved by the whole room. This made me realise that I should express my perspective and opinion, without having hesitations. I reassured myself that I should speak with certainty and that was the reason I came, to express my perspectives and to do my best! I followed up by raising my placard to speak and produce amendments. I was without doubt proud of myself.

I believe Model United Nations is a great extra-curricular activity. It not only helps to increase confidence, but also helps to learn diplomacy, which is has significant value to use in real-life situations. Aside from educational aspect, Model United Nations serves as a gathering of students from various cities and different parts of the world where students of all ages can take the first step to forming worldwide connections.

The experience is definitely like no other and I am ever so grateful to have been part of this experience.

Thank you Bali MUN.

Marchella Putri



David Joseph, an Australian performing artist, has been working at Sekolah Ciputra for the last month as our inaugural Artist-in-Residence.

David has over 35 years experience in the performing arts and has worked as an actor on award winning theatre productions, played music with internationally acknowledged bands, performed with Australia's flagship circus company, facilitated hundreds of workshops and led innumerable community theatre projects. David has been working closely with Bu Niken, Pak Dendy and Adry sensei in both Elementary and High School performing arts classes, and in particular, has been a valuable asset to Bu Niken in her work with Grade 8 and 9 Drama students. He has taught circus skills to Grade 7 and PYP 4 students, who will present their work at the Creative Arts Festival on 19th December in Ciputra Hall. David is also working with many of our music students alongside Mr. David Kelly, teaching African percussion, body percussion and general performance skills for musicians. David is committed to Arts in education and sharing the transformative power of the performing Arts with young people. He believes that the Arts can not only be of value in their own right, promoting creativity, collaboration and expressive skills, but can also help young people with their self-esteem, communication skills and general wellbeing. It has been a great pleasure to have David with us, and from all accounts, he has brought great joy, skill and experience to our school community.

Entrepreneurship hubSC

The second half of 2018 proved to be an exciting time for students "Embracing the Spirit" of entrepreneurship at Sekolah Ciputra. While the skills of entrepreneurship, such as creativity, financial literacy and working with others, are taught regularly through the current school curriculum, some specific events enabled students to demonstrate their entrepreneurial flair.

The PYP 4 Kidpreneur Day exhibited students' ability to create, research, build a business case and finally promote a stall at lunchtime. Five students were awarded the inaugural Kidpreneur trophy and used their skills to run a highly successful stall in the local Farmers' Market. In Grade 11 Enterprise class, students worked in teams to create original entrepreneurial ideas, with two teams winning the opportunity to present their ideas at the University of Ciputra young entrepreneur competition. Other students, through the design school, built and presented an app developed for the UBS Youth Con 2018.

2019 offers plenty of opportunities for future entrepreneurs. Sekolah Ciputra will offer more structured opportunities for entrepreneurship such as extending the Grade 10 Personal Project and Grade 9 mini Personal Project in more explicit business, service or social venture outcomes. Also, the full launch of hubSC is planned, a hub of learning that will be at the centre of the on and off line growth of "Embracing the Spirit" of entrepreneurship.

Latest activities

