



An Institute of Distinction

VOICES

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A PUBLICATION OF TRAINEE TEACHERS' CLUB

SEARCH YOUR WAY INTO NIE!

Think you know NIE well? Try out this word search!



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NIE'S INSTAGRAMMABLE SPOTS

Snap your way to being Instagram famous! Check out these places in school.



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BACK-TO-SCHOOL ESSENTIALS

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OUR HEARTFELT TRIBUTE

A special dedication for the well-respected late Director Professor Lee Sing Kong.



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CULTURALLY DIVERSED

Read on to find out how NIE celebrated the various cultural events!

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6 QUESTIONS WITH A/P VIVIEN HUAN

Why did A/P Huan choose the teaching profession? Read on to learn more about her!

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An Institute of



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EDITOR'S



NOTE

Dear readers,

Welcome back to school! I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable school break, and is ready to face the exciting challenges of a new school term ahead.

In this issue of VOICES, we pay a special tribute to the late Director Professor Lee Sing Kong, who devoted his life to the Teacher Education scene in Singapore (pg 5). We thank him for his years of service and extend our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones.

To all the freshmen, a big welcome to the teaching fraternity! I remember taking my first steps into NIE a year ago, feeling the first day of school jitters and worrying about not being able to adapt to school. But fret not! We have put together a Back-to-School essentials guide (pg 12) and got some friendly seniors who has NIE Survival Tips (pg 6) to help you get a headstart in school!

In the past semester, the various clubs have come together to put up many events to keep the campus life bustling with vibrancy! From the Welfare Pack Giveaways organized by

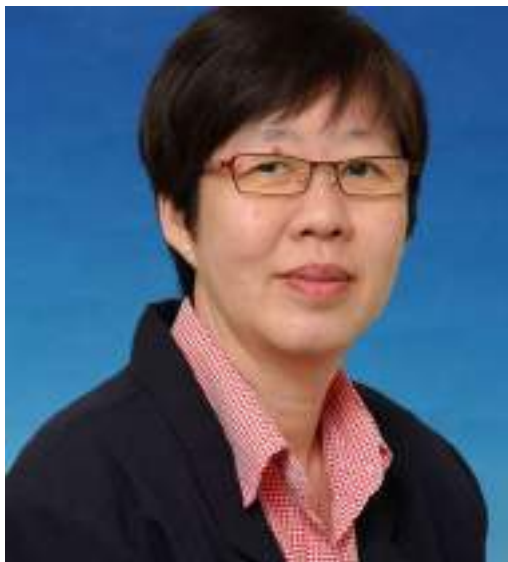
Trainee Teachers' Club (pg 8) to becoming a Masterchef with the Food Science and Consumer Sciences Club (pg 11), there is an event for everyone! Do look out for more exciting events coming up.

There's something special about walking down the corridors in school and knowing that every single person you see is going to become a teacher as well. This is not the easiest job but definitely one of the most fulfilling one, to be able to make tiny differences to some kids' life and creating memories with my fellow teachers.

Of fresh starts and beginnings that you create for yourself, I hope everyone will have a great semester ahead! See you around in school!

Lim Shi Hui, Iris

Editor-in-Chief
Second-Year, Diploma in Education
26th Trainee Teachers' Club



5 QUESTIONS WITH A/P VIVIEN HUAN

Read on to find out more about A/P Huan's areas of research interest, most defining moments in life and more!

ABOUT

ROLE:

Associate Dean,
Programme and
Student Development

DEPARTMENT:

Office of Teacher
Education (OTE)
Psychological Studies
(PS)

Why did you choose the teaching profession?

"If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants" (Sir Isaac Newton, 1675). Indeed, I met some great giants in the teachers I had during my secondary school years in a mission school. Not only did they effectively engage us in our learning journey as students but more importantly, they role modelled sound values for us to follow and emulate. They were also supportive and present in times of need, never failing to offer a helping hand or a listening ear to the problems we encountered in and out of school. Those years left an indelible mark on my life and have influenced me in my life's vocation.

What are your areas of research interests? How do these research findings help student teachers?

My research interest focuses mainly on Juvenile Delinquency and various deviant behaviours associated with it. At-risk behaviours such as serious and violent youth offending, pathological Internet use, disruptive behaviours both in public and in the classroom, are some of the research areas I have been involved in, or working on. Findings obtained from these research studies could help inform student teachers in understanding the psychology of the child who has problems and how to deal with them effectively in order to develop the child to his/her best potential.

Could you share with us some interesting facts of your content or research area?

One of the interesting facets of my research area is in working with the various governmental groups related to youth offending: the Singapore Juvenile and Family Courts, Ministry of Social Family Development, Singapore Police Force & Ministry of Education. This goes to show that it really "takes a village to raise a child" (Nigerian Proverb). With each organization, different concerns of the child are raised. However, all these concerns help the researcher understand the child's needs better and thus, more effective interventions can be employed to address these needs.

What was one of your most defining moments in life?

One of my most defining moments in

life happened during my first year in teaching. I met a young lad who was at-risk of failing out of school. His academic grades were not ideal and he helped his dad at a fruit stall every day. He exhibited many negative behaviours in school. He often played truant and assaulted fellow students whenever he is in class. However, I noticed he is very street smart and is able to come up with the quickest way to get himself out of tricky situations. I was determined to reach out and helped him. We conversed in Hokkien (the only dialect he was comfortable speaking in) and gradually I built a rapport with him. Over time, he progressed and his behavior improved. To a large extent, working with this boy ignited my research passion in this area, i.e. working with at-risk children.

Any advice for the students of NIE?

Teaching is a calling. It is a special profession as it involves working with young lives. Besides acquiring the relevant content knowledge and pedagogical skills during your initial years at NIE, my advice to student teachers is this: do spend time reflecting on your own life journey, what you have learnt in NIE, and how this knowledge can help you grow both as an individual and ultimately, as an educator of tomorrow's generation. Literally, the lives of our nation's future pass through your hands and that in itself, should be taken seriously as the responsibility is great.

PGDE: A STEP ABOVE THE REST

PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN

Johan Ezran
Final-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
NIE Club Fair Overall-in-Charge
President | Trainee Teachers' Club 26th Management Committee

On the 11th of January 2017, students of NIE gathered at the area outside Lecture Theatre 1 to celebrate the vibrancy of student community. The incoming PGDE student teachers were also given a glimpse into the various events organised by the TTC (Trainee Teachers' Club) and subsidiary clubs. The event featured interactive and activity-based booths set up by the respective clubs. Each showcased their clubs' identity and upcoming events through various sharing sessions, demonstrations and activities for the upcoming semester.

NIE students visiting the various booths were greeted by attractive displays, exciting activities, and also a warm welcome by the various club representatives. They participated eagerly in the activities from each booth to receive a sticker as an indication of their participation or for the effort they have put in for the activities. Participants who successfully collected at least eight different stickers from any of the 11 clubs could redeem a limited edition NIE shoe bag!

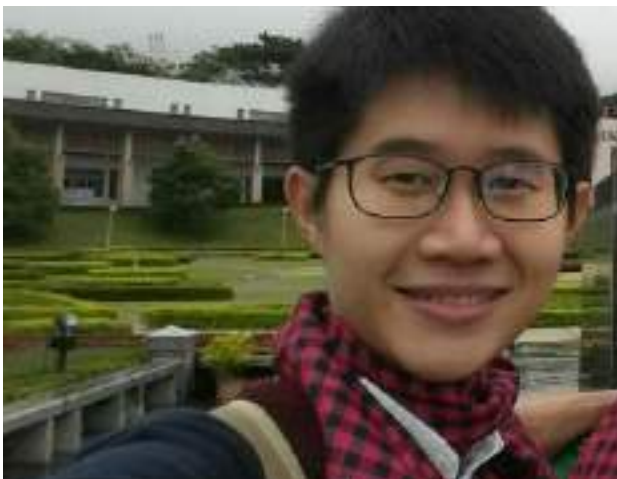
Missed the 'Clubbing in NIE' session? Find out more about NIE Student Clubs by visiting the Trainee Teachers' Club's Facebook or Instagram page!



CLUBBING IN NIE



NIE Voices spoke to Sarah Ng Udomkich-decha, a student teacher who is part of the pioneer batch of the new enhanced PGDE programme. Read on to find out what he has experienced so far!



“Unlike most of my peers, my decision to enrol in the enhanced PGDE programme was a deliberate one. What I can say is that it has been conducive for the cultivation of an important teacher skill: reflective thinking.

The highlights of this new programme are, to name a few, the Teaching Assistantship and Singapore Kaleidoscope. These modules encouraged me to reflect on my experiences, be it lesson observations or rediscovering Singapore. Reflective thinking is about making sense of what you have experienced and committing to improving yourself so that you grow as an individual. This skill is rarely imparted in the largely academic setting of undergraduate studies. In addition, the longer semester time gives me more breathing space to chew on what I have learned in and out of my classes. It would be more challenging to cultivate reflective thinking if the schedule has been more packed.

I am looking forward to the second half of the journey and eager to see how I would grow.

OUR HEARTFELT TRIBUTE

Lim Shi Hui, Iris
Second-Year, Diploma in
Education (Education)
Publications Officer | Trainee
Teachers' Club

“The best teacher is one who can inspire the heart of every student and through this, change their lives not only within the classroom but beyond.” - These were the words of the late Director Professor Lee Sing Kong, who devoted his life to the Teacher Education scene in Singapore. With deep sadness and sorrow, we share with you the heartbroken news that Professor Lee passed away on Friday evening, 19 May 2017.

He was appointed Director of NIE in 2006 and concurrently served as Dean of the External Programmes Officer (EPO). During his 8 years of service, he led many initiatives and guided NIE in achieving its vision of achieving excellence.

They say “Learning never stops” and Professor Lee’s innovative research studies and notable service in Education has led to the acquisition of an outstanding list of awards and honorary doctorate degrees, with the latest being the conferment of a Doctor of Literature by University College London on 1 September 2016, at the age of 64. He truly inspires us to keep educating ourselves and acquire wisdom that would better us as a person.

Professor Lee was a remarkable teacher, a wise mentor, an innovative researcher and a visionary leader. We extend our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones.

Thank you, Prof Lee. You will be fondly remembered by many.



Ng Jia Jun Justin
Alumni, Bachelor of Science (Year of 2015)
21st TTC Vice-President
22nd and 23rd TTC President
23rd NTU Students' Union Council Chairperson

“I was privileged to have worked together with Prof Lee during his final years as NIE Director and Club Advisor when I served in the 21st and 22nd Trainee Teachers' Club.

My first interaction with Prof Lee was during our Club Investiture in 2011. Our investiture was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances and we only could start late in the evening when most have gone

home. As Guest of Honour, Prof Lee insisted that he will stay behind to grace our event and support us student leaders whenever he could as we were the ‘backbone of vibrancy and unity of student life in NIE’.

It was there when he left a deep impression on me as a man who truly understood the importance of servant leadership and ‘walking the talk’. It was there that I knew I had found a role model to look up towards.

Prof Lee was a man of his word - regardless of how busy he was, he never failed to take the time to grace our events and listen to our thoughts and opinions about student life, while giving suggestions to improve even further as leaders. Indeed, we were all deeply inspired by his dynamic spirit, his generosity and of his distinctive powerful voice.

On a personal level, Prof Lee’s words, actions and affirmations have led and inspired me through some of my toughest times in university when I was struggling to juggle between service and studies. I still remember vividly when I was extremely nervous before I was due to give my first speech as the 23rd NTU Students' Union Council Chairperson during the NTU Freshmen Welcome Ceremony. In his position as NTU Vice President then, Prof Lee came up to me and shook me in the arms: “Now we have (true) leadership – go ahead and make that difference!” That was all the courage and drive I needed. He subsequently nominated me for the NIE Award and gave me all his blessings during my convocation before I stepped out and joined the teaching fraternity.

Prof Lee’s legacy in education will be kept alive for many generations to come – but I hope NIE student leaders will also know of his dedication, values and spirit, and continue to uphold it during their service to the club and the institute.

FRESHIES: NIE SURVIVAL TIPS



Noah Zhang
Final-Year, Bachelor of Arts
(Education)

While most of us conscientiously plan the elective courses that we are interested to take before semester begins, spend also some time planning your term breaks! It could be FOC, external internships, voluntarism or professional development courses – always plan your term breaks in advance and make them count!

Adibah Azri Binte Zulkifli
Final-Year, Bachelor of Arts
(Education)

It's going to be tough ahead, freshies! But that just means we are tougher! With friends who have the same goals of being an educator and understanding lecturers who will always be of guidance, it will definitely make the journey in NIE a fruitful one.



Zulhaqqim Awaruddin
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)

School tip: Don't be hesitant to join school activities! NIE has a vibrant school setting with different clubs coming up with different activities every week! Explore and try out new things. I've tried dancing, acting, cooking and playing sports! These activities not only provide an opportunity for you to de-stress, let loose and have some fun, it can also forge great camaraderie between your batch mates and even school mates! Making human connections is after all part of teaching, no?



Daneesh Akbar Bin Mohd Azman
Second-Year, Bachelor of Science
(Education)

University life is actually quite awesome! It's the best time to try out new things, step out of your comfort zone and expand your social circle. But please remember to still study!



Jean Lim
Second-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)

Plan out your assignments schedule! Putting the dates of your assignments/projects/presentations down before you start can really help you in planning and allocating sufficient time to do each and every one of them.



Jolyn Teow Hui Ting
Third-Year, Bachelor of Science
(Education)

Savour this moment now as you read this, but not for long because your assignments are piling up.. just kidding! Work hard, play hard and make new friends as time in NIE passes way faster than you think. For some, this might be our last educational stage so remember to make the best out of it!



Kishan Kannan
Second-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)

Uni is probably the last time you're going to be able to try new things, so take this time to go beyond your comfort zone! Sign up for everything, explore new options and don't give yourself the chance for regret! Don't let academics stand in the way of living your life!

ALL THINGS GROW WITH LOVE

PHOTOS: ZULHAQIM AWARUDDIN



BACHELOR OF ARTS CLUB

Rebecca Heng
Second-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Chairperson | Bachelor of Arts Club

This year, BA Club's Valentine's Week was divided into four main components showcasing the flavours of love through Contemporary Art across various mediums namely Glass Art, Pictures, Henna and Crafts. The theme of the event was bohemian picnic style and everyone loved it! Through this event, we saw that the NIE community immersed itself creatively and passionately through art to express love to friends and loved ones. This event served as a reminder for individuals to be appreciative of one another and to translate it into acts of giving.

PHOTOS: SUHAILAH BEGUM



TAMIL LANGUAGE CLUB

Yamunah Balakrishnan
Second-Year, Diploma in Education
Publications Officer | Tamil Language Club

The Tamil Language Club was pleasantly surprised by the response to the handcrafted one-of-a-kind foiled bookmarks and mini test tubes messages. We had repeat customers and much to our surprise all items were gone within a few hours. We also gained insight into the development and execution of the event. It was a win-win situation!

The event wouldn't have been a success without all your contributions. The Tamil Language Club would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone.

“Watching people buying the handmade items for their loved ones made my day.
Mahaletcumi D/O Subramaniam
Year 2, Diploma in Education

PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN



FOOD AND CONSUMER SCIENCES CLUB

Ang Hui Wen, Grace
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Project Officer | Food and Consumer Science Club

As opposed to popular sentiment, FCS not only dabbles in the realm of food but also to economize. Instead of spending money on gifts, why not learn a new skill and save more in the future by making your own! Hence, we invited a fellow NIE student, Amanda Soo, Year 2, BA (Art, Drama) to teach us the know-hows of writing Calligraphy. With these skills, participants could come up with fantastic pieces to be presented for their loved ones!

“Had so much fun, really enjoyed the session and learnt so much!

Denise Chng
Year 4, BA (Ed)



DANCEFUZION

Niroshini Ramasamy
Final-Year, Bachelor of Science (Education)
Chairperson | DanceFuzion

We've got that sunshine in our pockets and we ain't afraid to unleash them! DanceFuzion (DF) was happy to spread joy and smiles to everyone in the NIE canteen during the week of Valentine's day last February. We performed a dance item to Justin Timberlake's Can't Stop the Feeling, an upbeat and popular song! Dressed in the colours of a rainbow, we surprised the student population with a Flashmob.

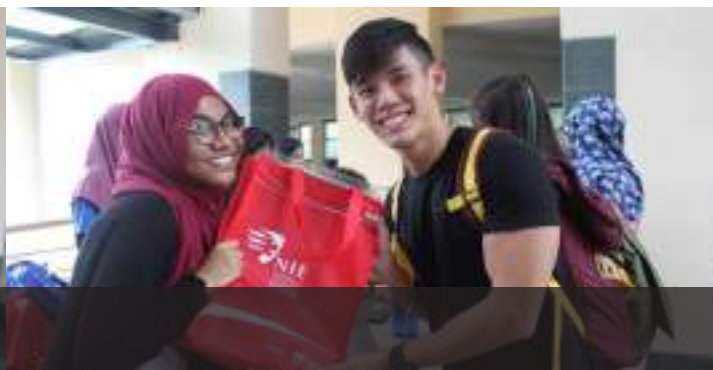
Through this performance, we also realized the mission of spreading joy and passion for dance to the NIE/NTU community. Want to know more about us? Come join us on Wednesdays at 7pm, UiD level 1! You can also follow us on Instagram, @nie.dancefuzion for updates!

FROM TTC TO YOU

- Low Qiao Xuan
- Second-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
- Honorary General Secretary | Trainee Teachers' Club
- Jo-Anne Seet
- Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
- Welfare Officer | Trainee Teachers' Club



TTC WELFARE PACK GIVEAWAY



PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN

The Trainee Teachers' Club (TTC) exists to serve the student-teacher body of NIE, and that is precisely the reason for the Welfare Pack Giveaways we organize twice in every academic year. In the last year, we've had two of such events, each themed differently to spice things up on our campus.

The NIE Pokemon Go themed Welfare Pack Giveaway in the first half of the year saw a large Pikachu mascot making appearances in the student-teachers' polaroid pictures, which were given away for free by our event photographer by TTC.

Alongside the mobile photo booth, our event was packed with student-teachers queuing for the complimentary cappuccinos from Dutch Coffee Colony Co. Welfare packs containing an assortment of exam-prep necessities such as Nestle cereal, Milo packets and post-it pads were of course being distributed as well.

In the second half of the year we decided it would be apt to close the year with a more nostalgic theme - Throwback to Yesteryears. The Peranakan Museum was contacted and they graciously lent

us a Sarong Kebaya, among many other artefacts that we used to decorate our event venue. Our centerpiece comprised traditional games like Mancala, Five Stones and Jenga, all meant to help student-teachers de-stress while evoking memories. Other booths at the event included food stalls distributing free Muah Chee and Tutu Kueh, as well as the welfare pack distribution booth with welfare packs containing all-time favourites snacks.



TEE-SHIRT SALES 2017



PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN

In January this year, the TTC Executive Committee organized the TTC T-shirt Sales again. This time round, the t-shirts made their appearances in a new design and colours. With the new look, the shirts aim to portray a cool image of the student teachers. Though the design is different from varsity t-shirts that TTC had always been selling, the shirts were made in colours that are very popular with students. The event ended successfully and it was interesting to see student teachers decked in different t-shirts designs along the corridor!

“I think NIE's shirts have a huge impact on the culture of NIE, so having a different and unique design is a good idea!

Florence Chiang Siu Sia

Year 2, Bachelor of Science (Education)

CHAMPIONS ONCE AGAIN

Ferdinand Mar Xie Fai
Third-Year, Bachelor of Science (Education)
Chairperson | Physical Education and Sports Science Club



Unlike previous years, Team NIE successfully defended the coveted title of “Champions” in the Inter-School Games (ISG) 2016, scoring 76 points to edge out Nanyang Business School. Together with students from Sports Science & Management (SSM), students from NIE took part in a total of 18 sports throughout the month of December. This year’s ISG saw Team NIE bag a total of 5 gold (volleyball, ultimate frisbee, race relay, men futsal, floorball) 4 silver (netball, swimming, women futsal, men basketball) 3 bronze (captain’s ball, tennis, touch rugby) an improvement from our previous year’s 71 points.

Most importantly, this achievement would not have been possible without the hard work put in by members from PESS Club & SSM Society. To join Team NIE for ISG 2017/18, keep a lookout for announcements this November by liking our Facebook page at “NIE Physical Education and Sports Science – PESS Club”.



“ I am extremely honoured to be presented with this award. It’s definitely the best graduation gift ever! I am glad and thankful to be a part of Team NIE and having the opportunity to represent us. I’ll always remember the amazing friendships forged. Thank you NIE!

Camelia Goh
Year 4, Sports Science and Management
MVP of ISG 2016, participated in more than 5 sports



EVENTS CHECKLIST: HA

PHOTOS: DARREN FOO, CROSBY TEO



CLUB JEUX: GAME OF THE MONTH

Hu Wen-Tian Wendy
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Chairperson | Club Jeux

Unlike previous years, we decided to have a small-scale BBQ this time to celebrate our birthday. It was a nice change to bond within the small group of people and catch up over delicious food and board games. We had fun playing games like Resistance, which required us to convince one another that we are on the 'good' team, and it got so intense with all the shouting that some friendships might have been severed (just kidding, of course!). It was definitely a night to remember!

Cai Hanyun
Final-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Vice-Chairperson | Club Jeux

This semester, Club Jeux's Game of the Month Event proudly brought to you two of our favorite short games; Love Letter and For Sale. Both games require some planning of strategies and luck. These are good games to be modified into your regular classroom games to teach math or science concepts. It gives students a better understanding of financial planning and also allowing them to learn how to strategize better.



CLUB JEUX TURNS 9!

PHOTOS: MUHAMMAD ZULHAQQIM BIN AWARUDDIN



DRAMA SCENE 1 ACT 2: IN THE MIGHT JUNGLE

Muhammad Zulhaqqim Bin Awaruddin
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Logistics Officer | DanceFuzion

Back for its second year, the annual drama workshop held by NIE's very own dance group, DanceFuzion, it aimed to help both members and non-members to learn the different ways one can incorporate dramatic skills in dance, movement and expression. More importantly, how these skills will be useful in a classroom setting to teach students how to express themselves.

Led by the instructor, Ms Lili Muslihah, an undergraduate from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama from the University of London, the participants explored various expressions through personifying ourselves through hand gestures, utilising the different levels of stage acting and mimicking the movement and interaction between animals. Through these methods of theatre practice, the participants can utilise it in their classrooms as forms of expressions by students in academia and for fun.

HAVE YOU JOINED YET?



DISCOVER THE CHEF IN YOU!

Eileen Sin Yu Ling

Third-Year, Bachelor of Science (Education)

Chairperson | Food and Consumer Science Club

PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN, NADIRAH BINTE SHARIN

In February this year, Food and Consumer Sciences Club had hosted our very own Inter-Club Masterchef Competition and it was a brilliant success. Members from various clubs paired up to compete with one another in our mystery box challenge. Competitors work in the searing heat of the NIE food lab to produce a meal within a limited time of one hour.

The competition was fierce and the standard extremely high. Competitors are being assessed by a series of criteria such as implementation of mystery ingredients, difficulty of techniques used, overall presentation and taste.

With the limited time on hand, it was incredible to see how competitors came up with creative and imaginative dishes which made our judges gasp in awe. There were some very creative ideas including chicken kebab, popcorn chicken and pizza made completely from scratch!

It was clear that our judges found it to be a very tough decision to choose a winner as everyone did remarkably well during the competition. At last, the overall winner for our Inter-Club Masterchef Competition goes to DanceFuzion, presenting three dishes: Chicken Kebab with Bell Peppers, Croquette and Creamy Tomato Pasta.

Tan Nellie

Final-Year, Bachelor of Science (Education)

Vice-Chairperson | Food and Consumer Science

Jar meals are easy to make, portable and in-trend – perfect for the busy student teachers to have on the go! In conjunction with the World Health Day, Food and Consumer Science Club organized a Salad-in-a-jar workshop for the NIE community. During the event, healthy eating tips and some jar meal recipes (overnight oats and Asian noodle soup) were shared. Of course, the highlight of the event was when the participants got to try their hands on making their very own salad-in-a-jar! With a variety of ingredients to choose from, participants curated their personalized tasty and healthy salads.

PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN, TAN NELLIE



EATING HEALTHY FROM A JAR?

Overnight Oats Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1 clean jar with lid
- 1/2 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tsp honey
- Your favourite toppings (fruits, nuts, etc)

Instructions:

Place all ingredients in the jar, close the lid and refrigerate it overnight! The next morning, open the lid, give it a good stir and enjoy!



BACK TO SCHOOL: BAG ESSENTIALS

Article and Photos by:

Kho Hui Han

Third-Year, Bachelor of Science (Education)

Publicity Officer | Trainee Teachers' Club

Heavy bag no more! Since we were young, we carried heavy backpacks which contained books, stationeries and even snacks!

In NIE, we can now - Pack smart, Pack less and Achieve more! Don't fret over what to pack for school, because it's just as simple as it is. Here is what we have for you!



Tips:



Straps of the bags are considered important as they are closely related to comfort when using the bags.



Wide, padded, adjustable straps are recommended to avoid putting on extra pressure to your shoulders and back!



Length of the straps should not be too long as it will lean forward and cause discomfort to the back and neck areas.

THE ANATOMY OF BSC

Written by:
Chan Wei Ling Jane
Ang Hui Wen, Grace
Lim Xin Ying



STARLITE 2017: "LOVE IS IN THE AIR"



Throughout the audition period of BSc Club StarLite 2017: "Love is in the Air", we saw overwhelming responses from NIE staff and student-teachers showcasing their outstanding singing talents. Serenading their loved ones with a love song, five NIE student-teachers eventually made it to the finals!

The lovely singing battle was held on a Saturday evening in March, graced by our Guest-of-Honour, A/P Chow Jia Yi, Assistant Dean, Degree and Student Life. The talented finalists melted the hearts of the judges and audience, as they sent their love radiating through the air with their own renditions of Katy Perry's "Unconditionally", JJ Lin's "Practice Love", "Stay" by Rihanna, "Gravity" and "I Have Nothing" by Whitney Houston. Before the grand finale, which concluded with the prize presentation and the Overall Champion's encore performance, our ever-enthusiastic emcees, Muhammad Nazirul Mubin (BSc (Ed), Year 2) and Eileen Sin (BSc (Ed), Year 3), engaged everyone in a short segment of "Don't Forget the Lyrics".

StarLite 2017: "Love is in the Air", in line with Valentine's Day and White Day, indeed proved that our student-teachers were NIE stars lite-ing up the stage, who will continue to shine their star light beyond!

BSc organized the Star Gazing event for the second time, and as usual, we started off the evening with a round of pizza, chicken and drinks. Thereafter, we proceeded to personalize our own galaxies in a jar. Sounds complicated? Not at all, we simply used materials like oil, water babies, glitter, and the participants invested creativity to materialize their own galaxies!

We then moved to the main event, gazing at our then cloudy night sky equipped with telescopes provided by the staff from the Science Centre. Fortunately, we observed parts of constellations like the Orion belt. After adjourning to a room, we were further enlightened about constellations and the stories behind them. Within the four walls, we turned off the lights, and turned on the stars, travelled in time to observe the "movement" of stars through a free online software, "Stellarium" that they introduced to us.

“It was my first time participating in the stargazing event and I definitely had a great time!”

Nadirah Binte Sharin
Year 3, Bachelor of Science (Education)



TURN OFF THE LIGHTS TURN ON THE STARS



A LITTLE BLOOD GOES A LONG WAY

Every hour of the day, 15 units of blood are used in Singapore. This means that 360 units of blood a day are being used up to meet the transfusion needs of patients. This year, BSc Club has once again collaborated with the Singapore Red Cross Society to organize a blood donation drive for NIE staff and students. There were 61 successful donors out of a total of 87 registered donors.

Each packet of blood collected could be used to save 3 lives. BSc Club would like to thank every participant who came down to save lives!



CLEAR CLUB CNY CELEBRATION 2017

Lee Wen Xin, June
Second-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Vice-Chairperson | CLEAR Club

PHOTOS: TOH YING HAN, NATALIE LIM LI LING

To usher in the year of the Rooster, CLEAR Club organized a Chinese New Year Celebration, in hope to bond the school population together to celebrate this festive occasion.

The celebration started with an energetic performance from the Lion Dance troupe, which not only aroused the festive atmosphere, but also symbolized the wish for a good year ahead. A lively musical performance comprising of popular Chinese New Year songs was also presented by our BA(Ed) Year 2 students Andre Ng and Jeshrei Toh. Even more, we were captivated by an entertaining skit on Chinese New Year customs, performed by our Year 1 students, directed by Rina Tan. Our emcees also had stage games like “Limbo” and “Dance with Me” to involve the audience!

Ending off the celebration with a Lohei for the entire NIE population, together with the arrival of the “God of Fortune”, the Chinese New Year atmosphere was at the peak!



MALAY WEDDING AT A VOID DECK?

Muhammad Shafarie Bin Abdul Manan
Final-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
President | MLCS Club

Not this time! In fact, a committed team from the Malay Language and Cultural Society (MLCS) had brought a traditional Malay Wedding to a whole new level and venue – in NIE!

Yes, you heard it right the first time. Not too worry, all of it was done for an annual event organised for secondary school students, called Zoombara. These students went around the different venues in NIE to participate in various Malay language or/and cultural-focused activities. The efforts in making their learning explicit is deemed important throughout the event in hopes that in the end, they will still be preserved.



A DAY WITH THE YOUNG EXPLORERS

Suhailah Sulaiman
Third-Year, Degree in Chemistry
Head of Language (MLCS) Student Advisor

In March, the Malay Language & Cultural Society (MLCS) held a yearly language event for 112 primary 4 students from 14 different schools nationwide. It was aimed to increase the awareness and conservation of the usage of Malay Language.

The storyline for this year's event is based on the tale of Hang Nadim that happened in Singapore a long time ago however, with our own twist at the end! The kids aided Nadim in his quest to save his homeland, Singapura, by completing game stations around NIE. Different language aspects such as metaphors, verbs and affixes are integrated into each games.



GROOVING TO THE BEATS OF RENTAK BUDAYA

Zalifa Ithnin
Third-Year, Degree in Sociology
Head of Culture (MLCS) Student Advisor

Rentak Budaya is a biennial event organized by the MLCS, with this year being only its second installation so far. The event highlights both traditional and modern aspects of the Malay culture through its various performances, booths and an exhibition display. Through its collaboration with other tertiary institutions in Singapore, there was an overwhelming sum of 318 performers and volunteers who participated in Rentak Budaya!

DIVERSED

PHOTOS: RAVATHI GUNASEGARA



PONGAL-O PONGAL

Yamunah Balakrishnan
Second-Year, Diploma in Education
Publicity Officer | Tamil Language Club

Pongal is the traditional Harvest Festival celebrated to convey the enjoyment and gratefulness to the Sun for a good harvest. The annual celebration organised by the Tamil Language Club (TLC) on 8 February was held at the NIE Function Space between Block 2 and Block 3.

Kolams (pattern drawings) were hand drawn with coloured rice flour as sign of invitation to welcome all to our celebration. All the students and staff were proudly dressed up in colourful ethnic attire.

Pongal (sweetened rice) was made on the spot under the supervision of Dr. A Ra Sivakumaran. The demonstration includes detailed explanation of steps and items used to celebrate Pongal. Using earthen pots, Both sweet and savory pongal was made and distributed to everyone. When it's made salty/ savory - salt, mild spices, coconut milk. and ghee are added. Sweet pongal, is boiled with raw brown sugar, raisins, nuts, milk and coconut milk. When the milk boils over and bubbles out of the vessel, tradition calls for people to shout "Pongalo Pongal!". The demonstration has benefited students to learn the way it is celebrated.

Visitors also brought home a container of sweet pongal which was specially ordered for them. Thank you to everyone who made Pongal celebration an enjoyable one!

QUICK GUIDE: NIE'S INSTAGRAMMABLE SPOTS

Photos by:
Kho Hui Han
Publicity Officer |
Trainee Teachers' Club

Whether you are an avid photographer or just enjoy sharing photos on social media, here we show you the most instagrammable spots in NIE! Special thanks to Joshua Ho and Nathaniel Dylan Lim (Second-Year, Bachelor in Arts (Education)) for being our models!



#intothewild

Where?

Back of NIE
Canteen

#classicredwall

Where?

Red Wall outside
Nanyang Art Gallery



#climbingupGPA

Where?

Open staircase
outside U.iD



#plantingourfriendship

Where?

NIE Triangle Garden
Grass Patch



REPRODUCING ART



BA CLUB PSYCH SPEAKER'S SERIES

Shafiq Rafi
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Chairperson | Bachelor of Arts Club

PHOTOS: MUHAMMAD ZULHAQQIM BIN AWARUDDIN

As student teachers in the fraternity, we all have a responsibility to be socially aware and critical of the events and issues that happen around the world. However, are we really ready to take a step into the unknown?

For the first time in NIE, the Bachelor of Arts (BA) Club has launched an exciting and insightful initiative titled, PSYCH: Speakers' Series. This platform, in collaboration with NIE's English Language & Literature (ELL) Department was established based on the results of a mass poll conducted to find out the topics of interest of student teachers. Overwhelming results from the poll indicated Modern Day Slavery, Fallacies and Racism in Singapore as top picks.

With immense support, BA Club engaged experts from the respective fields, Sylvia Lee from EmancipAsia, NIE Professor, Dr Jude Chua and Alfian Sa'at, Writer and Playwright from Wildrice!. These speakers lead and facilitated passionate dialogues with NIE student teachers and staff who left the venue feeling enlightened. BA Club hopes to continue with this initiative and engage more student teachers in meaningful conversations. Who knows, it could even translate into teaching moments in the classroom!

PHOTOS: AMANDA SARAH CHIN YONG HUI



NEVER MISSING A BEAT

Amanda Sarah Chin Yong Hui
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Creative Director | Bachelor of Arts Club

If you think you want to become a YouTube cajon-playing acoustic superstar, think again. I lied about the title. BA Club organized a Cajon 101 workshop on the 18th of January and we missed many beats. Led by Aaron Pang, Andre Ng and Jeshrei Toh, our very own Second-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education) students, the workshop introduced participants to basic cajon rhythms, before they got to play along, hesitantly but very suavely, to anthems like Lorde's Royals. Of course, being suave is the most important; if there were Cajon 102, we'd all participate again without skipping a beat.



DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION

Amanda Sarah Chin Yong Hui
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Education)
Creative Director | Bachelor of Arts Club

Their friends were probably treating them like slaves, and their professors probably gave them a bad grade or a judge-y look or something. That was why they came down with their friends and professors to BA Club's Dance Off! on the 22nd of March 2017 to dance battle it out on the Xbox—what better way can we determine victory? Not only was Dance Off! an outlet for frazzled students to shake it off, as Taylor Swift so puts it, but it also raised funds for The Red Pencil (SG), an art therapy charity. Keep your friends close and your enemies closer—when BA Club organizes her next Dance Off!, you'll know who to dance battle with next.

SEARCH YOUR WAY INTO NIE!

Lim Shi Hui, Iris
Second-Year, Diploma in Education
(Education)
Publications Officer | Trainee
Teachers' Club

1. _____

An online portal used by student teachers to receive announcements, get access to module materials and submit assignments.

2. _____ Teacher

A term to name NIE student teachers once they start teaching in school upon graduation.

3. _____

A plagiarism checker software which cross-reference your work with other references on the internet and in databases.

4. ____

Initials for Office of Teacher Education, which oversees all Initial Teacher Preparation programmes at NIE.



5. _____

A stint which enables student teachers to acquire beginning teaching competencies and is a core component of the Initial Teacher Preparation programme in NIE.

6. _____

Short form for the NIE Library and Information Services Centre, which is the largest education library in Singapore. It is located at NIE Block 4, Level 2-4. It provides resources which can help you with your modules and research for your essays! Do visit the Bookmark Cafe at Level 3 for a nice tea break!

7. _____ Subject

These subjects cover content knowledge and fundamental concepts and principles.

8. _____ Studies

These are subjects designed to equip student teachers with pedagogical skills in teaching specific subjects in Singapore schools.

9. ____

Initials for Student Services Centre, a one-stop centre that caters to the administrative needs and general enquiries of students and alumni.

BECAUSE WE CARE



PROJECT LOVE



Lim Zihui
Third-Year, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
Vice-Chairperson | Service Learning Club

To the 16 of us who participated in Project Love, #being holds a very precious place in our hearts. It was a constant reminder that we were not there for OCIP, but rather, Service-Learning. It is not so much of the doing (building toilets, painting murals etc.) but the being that is the emphasis.

“ Being means enjoying and living in the moment. It means that your thoughts are not preoccupied with future plans but living out and making the best of the moment.

Esheen
Year 3, BA (Ed)

After having formed the connection with the children, the farewell was not an easy one for us. Many of us tried to hold back our tears but the floodgates were open when we saw the children waving goodbye from their rooms. Laden, the school captain, on the other hand was very composed. She went around hugging us and telling us not to cry anymore.

“ It wasn't easy to say goodbye, but then again we shouldn't say goodbye to the POC kids because hopefully some day we will meet again.

Daneesh
Year 2, Bachelor of Science (Education)

Wang Wade Fengyin
Second-Year, PGDE
Team Leader

We came as individuals who did not know each other but shared a common goal; we left as a close-knit family. I believe that this statement best sums up the experience for my Nalanda team and me.

The 8 of us came together for this project as we all felt strongly for this service-learning opportunity. The Nalanda project aimed to help the Chakma community through teaching English at the local Primary school and also raising funds for the installation of electrical poles to help the community gain access to electricity. Over the course of our 10 days spent at the Chakma village, we learnt from our hosts, our experiences and also one another.

“ To become the kindest human-being I can ever be, is the inspiration I have gained from this YEP Project.
Li Ting



PROJECT NALANDA





NIE INSTALIFE

Check out all these activities happening around campus! From jump shots to sports lessons, looks like the Instagram community here had a great time in school. Follow us (@niettcsg) and hashtag #myNIElife on your photos and they might be featured in our next issue!





UPCOMING

EVENTS BY
CLUB AND FOR
CLUBS

NIE T-SHIRT SALES
SPORTS CARNIVAL
CLUB SCIENCEKIDZ
BAZAAR PONGAL
HARI CELEBRATION
RAYA REPERIO
CELEBRATION
NIE CLUB WELFARE PACK
AWARD AND GIVEAWAY
PASSION SERVICE
AWARD LEARNING
CEREMONY PROJECTS



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NIE Wellness Centre

The NIE Wellness Centre provides psychological and counseling services to National Institute of Education student teachers, Nanyang Technological University students and to the general public offering affordable psychological services and counseling to a high standard.

A medical referral is not required.

Appointments can be arranged by phoning the centre at this number 6790 3318.

<http://www.ps.nie.edu.sg/WEI/WEI/WEI.htm>

The NIE Wellness Centre operating hours:
9am to 5pm (Mon - Fri)
5pm to 9pm (Mon - Thurs upon request)

The NIE Wellness Centre is located in
the basement of the Education Building
(Block 2) at the National Institute of Education.