



VOICES

ISSUE
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A PUBLICATION OF TRAINEE TEACHERS' CLUB

THE 5CS OF A HAPPY STUDENT TEACHER

Find out about the 5Cs that make us student teachers happy!



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THE 5 HOTTEST SLANG WORDS

Familiarise yourself with these 5 words and phrases before you step into a school.



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EDITOR'S



NOTE

Dear readers,

To my peers returning to NIE for another exciting semester of fun and learning, it's great to have you back! For juniors who have just joined us, I warmly welcome you to NIE as you begin a meaningful and rewarding career.

In this issue of VOICES, we have put two of our friends from the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) programme into the spotlight. They shared with us some of their life experiences that inspired them to become an educator.

For student teachers who are preparing to leave us temporarily to go on your practicum stint, we have dedicated a full page on practicum tips and advices from Dr Jessie Png, the Assistant Dean of Practicum.

Student life in NIE is vibrant with the numerous events organised by our very own NIE clubs. Read all about the past events such as FCS Watercolour Workshop, PESS NIE Sports Carnival and much more!

Read all about the 5 hottest words used by the younger generation before you head out and teach! We have also come up with a list of 5cs that makes us student teachers happy. Worried about what General Electives (GE) to take this semester? Fret not, we've got you covered with 4 GEs that others have taken and are raving about. Considering an overseas teaching experience? We put together an article featuring two of our brave friends who had recently participated for a 5-week long International Practicum in Denmark and Taiwan.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of VOICES as we start the semester fresh. Hope to see you around on campus and have a great semester ahead! Be kind to one another!

Choy Seng Hean

Editor-in-Chief
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
27th Trainee Teachers' Club

GETTING TO KNOW

JOSHUA AND TABITHA

We spoke to Joshua and Tabitha to find out what inspired them to become a teacher, their experiences at contract schools and what they think about the newly enhanced PGDE programmes.



the importance of education as a stepping stone and a doorway to better opportunities in life.

T: Teaching has been a part of my life in various small ways as I grew from teenage years to adulthood. Choosing education as my vocation was thus quite a natural progression for me. I enjoy working with youths and the dynamism of the school environment.

Tell us about your contract school experience.

J: I was posted to Regent Secondary School for a total of six months and I greatly enjoyed my time there. One of the most memorable moments for me there was from the time I spent in the Rainbows Programme which provides support to students who face challenges, transitions and changes in their family. The experience offered me a greater understanding of the challenges and struggles faced by students and gave me the opportunity to connect with them.

T: I had a very enriching experience teaching at Shuqun Secondary School for 4 months. I enjoyed the exposure to a range of classes and teaching styles since many colleagues from different departments were willing to have me as an observer in their classrooms. One of my greatest takeaways from this stint is that genuineness and discernment go a long way in interacting with students and colleagues.

What are your views about the newly enhanced PGDE programmes?

J: The enhanced PGDE programme has developed me to become a more effective

teacher in many ways. Through it I have developed a more comprehensive personal philosophy towards teaching. It has also deepened my understanding of the subject matter, the needs and struggles that students face today as well as “concretising” my pedagogical practices and approaches towards teaching.

T: The key strength of the enhanced PGDE programme is the stronger link between theory and practice. The newly added Teaching Assistantship is particularly helpful as it provides the opportunity to go back to a familiar environment, now armed with greater awareness and a clearer educator’s lens, to observe what goes on in classrooms and to try our hand at applying some of these concepts with greater confidence.

What advice would you give fellow student teachers?

J: My advice would be to keep an open mind to the opinions of fellow colleagues and to share your personal experiences as everyone has much to learn from each other. The diversity in experiences from various schools in contract teaching is a rich ground for exploration, discussion and learning for individual growth. With regards to assignments, always, always, always, start early!

T: You may be surprised at how easy it is to get tired, stressed, overwhelmed, and even bitter. Choose to have an excellent spirit: be positive, be open to new experiences. Also, bear in mind that a good learner makes a good teacher: don’t be afraid to try different things and make mistakes, viewing all of this as a process of learning and growth.

ABOUT

INTERVIEWEES:

Lim Zhi Rui, Joshua
Lee Xiao-En Tabitha

PROGRAMME:

Postgraduate Diploma
in Education (PGDE),
December 2016

Why did you choose the teaching profession?

J: I believe that education opens pathways and opportunities for people. I dropped out of school in my youth and worked for some time. That experience changed me as I saw how others without formal education struggled to make ends meet, working long hours in jobs that don’t pay much. This made me recognize

WELCOME TO NIE

Every moment is a fresh beginning. In NIE, we started the semester with a bang. Below are some of the activities our freshmen student teachers were treated to as they began their journey with us.

NIE WELCOME CEREMONY

Johan Ezran, Year 4, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
President | Trainee Teachers' Club 27th
Management Committee

PHOTO: KHO HUI HAN



On 10th August 2017, the National Institute of Education (NIE) held its annual Welcome Ceremony to usher in the new July intake of student teachers from the Diploma in Education, the Bachelor of Arts and Science, as well as the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PE) programmes. Within minutes, the NIE Lecture Theatre 1 was filled with enthusiastic student teachers, all eager to find out more about what NIE has to offer in their course of study.

The Dean of Teacher Education, Associate Professor Liu Woon Chia, then gave a warm opening address. While she inspired student teachers to push the boundaries of their learning horizon, she also shared about how teachers might be derailed from their calling and spurred everyone to keep their passion burning.

The president of the 26th Trainee Teachers' Club, Johan Ezran, shared his personal experiences as a student teacher and as a student leader in NIE. The students were given a glimpse of student life in NIE.

NIE CLUB FAIR

Johan Ezran, Year 4, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
President | Trainee Teachers' Club 27th
Management Committee

PHOTO: KHO HUI HAN



On the 16th August 2017, NIE student teachers gathered at the Function Hall in the U.iD to celebrate the vibrancy of the student community. The incoming student teachers from the Diploma in Education, Bachelor of Arts and Science as well as the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PE) programmes were given a glimpse into the various clubs and events organised by the Trainee Teachers' Club (TTC) and the subsidiary clubs.

The fair featured live music by the Visual Performing Arts students and interactive booths set up by the various clubs in NIE to showcase the clubs' identities, upcoming events and recruitment for the next committee through sharing sessions and demonstrations. The freshmen visiting the booth were greeted by attractive displays and a warm welcome by the various club representatives.

"The booths and activities at the club fair played a good role in recruiting prospective members for the clubs using simple but effective facilities, and the activities were uncommonly interesting"

Nicholas Teo
Year 1, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

REVENGE OF MAAHES – THE GOD OF WAR

Muhammed Nazirul Mubin
Year 3, Bachelor of Science (Ed)
Chairperson, Orientation Planning Management Committee 2017



PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN

The “Revenge of Maahes - The God of War” was the theme of this year’s Freshmen Orientation Programme (FOP). Based on storylines of the Ancient Egyptian legends, the year-long project was the heart and soul of the Orientation Planning Management Committee (OPMC) who aspired to move away from traditional camp programmes. The programme drew inspiration from folklore characters like Horus and Anubis, bringing out the story of “Maahes” into real life. The programme aimed to foster community spirit through a series of fun-filled activities.

Grouped into the different incarnation of the Ancient Egyptian Gods, namely “Horomis”, “Rakasis”, “Osiris” and “Anubis”; participants of different programmes and specialisations got the chance to interact with one another as they worked together to collect “abilities” from the activities they took part in. The more abilities they earn from the games, the stronger the group gets in defeating “Maahes”. The mood of the camp was one of life and vigour. Sweat and tears were shed during the activities as groups competed with one another. At the end of the day, the true prize claimed by everyone was the new friendships forged.

This year’s FOP saw a new milestone for NIE as the first ever campfire night was held on campus. It was an eventful night where the participants performed their act during the campfire to defeat “Maahes”. Participants from each group worked hard to put up a performance in a short amount of time. It was one of the nights in NIE

the freshmen and seniors came together and made the night a memorable one. The campfire was graced by A/P Chow Jia Yi, Associate Dean of Programme Planning & Management who gave an inspiring speech to the new aspiring student teachers before the start of the campfire.



“Being part of the OPMC allowed me to work with people from different programmes and specialisation. To witness the camp unfold smoothly is fulfilling after all the year-long hard work of planning!”

Grace Ang
Year 3, Bachelor of Science (Ed)
Programme Master | Orientation Planning Management
Committee 2017 (OPMC)

5CS OF A HAPPY STUDENT TEACHER

HERE'S A LIST OF C'S WE THOUGHT ARE FACTORS TO BEING A HAPPY STUDENT TEACHER IN NIE. DO YOU AGREE?



CANTEEN.

Food, glorious food! This is where most student teachers go for lunch or a quick snack during their break. Manage to get your bowl of Bak Chor Mee during the busy lunch hours? Lucky you.



COFFEE.

We all need coffee to get through our long days in NIE. This brown aromatic liquid is a must before lectures and assignments! Many studies have shown that coffee improves various aspects of the brain function.



CARING LECTURERS.

We all need that lecturer who makes us laugh, cry and work harder than we ever thought we could. A caring teacher makes a big difference.



CHEERFUL FRIENDS.

Like a sunny day, a cheerful friend lights up our boring day. Ultimately, the reason why we love school is because it's the place where all our friends are.



CHARGING PORTS.

It's only midday, and your phone's battery is already dangerously close to the 20 per cent mark. Like many of us, the red icon would have left you panicking. Then with a sigh of relief, you recall that there are numerous charging ports all around the campus. What a fortunate lot we are!

5 HOTTEST SLANG WORDS YOU NEED TO KNOW

As teachers, communicating with our students can be tricky these days. It may seem as if our students are speaking a totally different language – one that is laced with a string of words and phrases we have never heard before. Here are 5 words and phrases you need to familiarise yourself with before you step into a school and face the younger generation!



THE STRUGGLE IS REAL



This phrase has become an everyday catchphrase for the children of the strawberry-generation of saying "through tough times" or having difficulties with something. For instance, when faced with a challenging mathematics problem sum, students may say "The struggle is real".

SQUAD

Gone are those days when we use the word "clique". The small close-knit group of friends who do not readily allow others to join them is now known as a "squad". "Hanging with the squad" sounds ten times cooler than "Hanging out with friends", isn't it?



ON FLEEK



You may see this phrase on social media then to actually hear the spoken form of this phrase. "On fleek" has the quality of being perfect or on point. For instance, you may hear students saying "Shawn is on fleek due to his ability to look perfect at all times."

POPS

"Pops" is the contracted form for the word "popular". This word is often used to tease someone for being too in-demand and usually reserved for that friend who knows everybody in the school or receives notifications on the social media far too often.



SAVAGE



"Savage" is the new kid on the block to describe someone who does not care about the consequences of his or her actions. This word has similar meanings to words like "crazy" or "insane".

INVESTITURES

Johan Ezran
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
President | Trainee Teachers' Club 27th Management

NIE Clubs Investiture 2017

On the 11th October 2017, the 26th Trainee Teachers' Club (TTC) Management Committee, together with the NIE sub-clubs, hosted the inaugural NIE Clubs Investiture. The dual purpose of the combined ceremony was to recognize the contributions of the previous committees and to inaugurate the 27th TTC Management Committee into office. At the ceremony, 15 student teachers, who had undergone rigorous interviews and elections, took the oath to serve the student population and the NIE community. Of these 15 student teachers, five were from the 26th TTC, underlining the dedication of the club to ensure continuity and a clear direction of the academic year ahead.



Back row: (Left to Right) Kho Hui Han, Chay Song Huan, Goh Wei Ting Andy, Ding Soo Jann, Ryan Lim Xing Yao, Teo Wei Chi Nicholas, Wan Mohamad AEE, Cheng Zheng Yi, Francis Benjamin Fernando, Chao Puar Wei.
Front row: Goh Shi Hui, Lee Qiao Xuan, Johan Ezran, Au Shantal Mubia, Lim Si Xian Rachel

PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN

The ceremony was honoured to have A/P Vivien Huan, Associate Dean of Programme & Student Development as the guest of honour and was attended by Sub-clubs Advisors, lecturers, staff from the Office of Teacher Education and close to 100 student teachers. A/P Huan gave an invigorating and enlightening speech about the importance of student leadership. She thanked our student leaders for the past year for their contributions, and welcomed the new incoming student leaders, urging them to step up and serve our NIE community. In his speech, Johan Ezran, the returning President, thanked his 26th TTC Management Committee for their hard work and dedication and encouraged the 27th TTC to continue the good work and to build on the collaboration work set by the previous committee. In his capacity as the 27th NTU Students' Union Council Chairperson, together with the new NIE Union Representative, he plans to represent, align and unite the NIE and the NTU community during his second term as the NIE TTC President.

Service-Learning Club Sharing Session

The NIE Service-Learning Club held a Club-Sharing Session cum Welcome Tea on the 23rd August 2017 for the incoming batch of Diploma, Degree and PGDE student teachers. With the intent of sharing the club's vision, mission, activities and causes they support, SLC spoke on the need for Service-Learning experiences for all individuals as a form of communal responsibility and the need for reflective pedagogies, necessary for personal, "whole-person" growth and student development.

The event saw the sharing of upcoming year-round local SL opportunities for our student teachers to participate in, including the St Luke's Art Facilitation, as well as Bandhudera 2017 - a migrant worker appreciation event in collaboration with HealthServe. In addition, the incoming leaders of our Overseas Service-Learning trips such as the Sikkim & Nalanda Youth Expedition Projects and Cat Walk shared their experiences. The event came to a close with lunch and participants mingled with members of SLC to ask questions and get to know more about our personal stories and experiences with Service-Learning.



PHOTOS: AW YANG JIE LING

TALENT SHOWCASE



KEEP CALM AND DANCE



PHOTOS: CHAU PEARLWE, KHO HUI HAN

So You Think You Can Dance?

• Kishan Kannan
• Year 2, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

In October 2017, DanceFuzion held an in-house showcase as its main event for the semester. Featuring three groups that each represented a unique style and genre, the showcase saw the members strut their stuff to Jazz Funk, Girl's Style and Hip-Hop. Made up of both senior DanceFuzion members and new blood from the Year 1 batch, each group was led by two committed and talented alumni choreographers, who made time specifically to hone our dancers and guide them to bop to the top. To heighten the suspense, groups were forbidden from watching each other's performances, and as such had no idea what the other groups were up to.

After 8 weeks of learning, un-learning and re-learning, the groups were finally ready to shimmy with their friend. With almost 80 people in attendance, the dancers popped and locked their way to deliver electrifying performances on the dancefloor. The audience were not allowed to sit still either, and were brought on-stage for interactive games such "Mirror Dance" and "Guess the Item", proving that anyone could be a dancer. DanceFuzion was also honored to have Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) club grace the stage with a stunning performance.

"I'm glad I signed up for the showcase, as I got to make new friends and moved my body in ways I did not know possible!"

Hannah Yeoh
Year 1, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

Momentum. Encouragement. Motivation

• Heng Wen Xiu Rebecca
• Year 2, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

The BA Club presents "Momentum.Encouragement. Motivation" which was a motivational event held on 8 November 2017 and a 2-week exhibition of the motivational quotes by BA Club as well as inputs from the rest of the NIE community along Blocks 2 and 3 of the school campus. As the examinations and assignment submissions were drawing near, BA Club wanted to get the NIE Community to encourage one another through writing motivational notes that formed a big heart. Through this event, we hope that student-teachers can strengthen their existing support networks and help one another as they continue their journey in NIE.

The event was a successful one where more than 100 student teachers came forth to write motivational notes to their friends. We also gave out 100 free helium balloons where everyone had fun pumping and collecting balloons for their friends. We hope that everyone enjoyed the motivational event as we did and we encourage everyone to support one another during the stressful and fun times here in NIE.

PHOTOS: ROSNIE NASUHA



ENCOURAGE AND EMPOWER!



TEACHING ABROAD

Besides gaining professional experiences while enjoying the benefits of seeing the world, going for an international practicum helps beginning teachers to broaden their understanding of teaching while adding a global perspective on education. NIE offers a 5-week long Teaching Assistantship (TA) programme which student teachers may apply to be attached to schools in Illinois, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Zurich, Beijing, Taipei, Osaka, Nagoya, Hong Kong, Waikato, Helsinki, Stockholm or Linköping. In this issue of voices, we spoke to two student teachers who have recently gone for the International Practicum.

DENMARK : Ng Qian Hui
: Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

I signed up for international practicum with the sole motivation of experiencing something new outside of Singapore education system and outside of my personal comfort zone. I was not disappointed.

I was assigned to a small school in a small town of Denmark, named Ry. It was definitely different from the usual school experiences I have had as a student and teacher in Singapore, where the school population sizes are easily six times of Knudsoskolen's. The first impression I had of the school culture reminded me of the school described in the storybook *Totto-Chan*. It was one where the small school population resembled a close knitted family unit and the children and teachers share a close rapport with one another. This impression could have also been reinforced by the culture here for the pupils to address the teachers by their first name as well; one which is definitely not commonly observed in Singapore education system, if any at all.

TAIWAN : Noridayu Binte Roslan
: Year 3, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

The International Practicum exchange in Taiwan has been nothing short of a remarkable and fulfilling experience. I was attached to Gu Ting Elementary School in Taipei. Immersing and engaging in a foreign culture had definitely broadened my perspectives on teaching philosophies inculcated by other educators around the globe. From nation-wide policies to specific classroom management skills, it was an eye-opening experience as both an observer and a participant of the teaching culture in Taiwan.

There are numerous similarities in the Mathematics syllabus between Singapore and Taiwan. In both countries, there is an emphasis on solving word problems using various heuristic methods. For example, students are taught to use drawing representations to solve complex word problems, and this can also be found in Singapore. Another example is the adoption of the "spiral approach" in the mathematics syllabus of both



PHOTOS: NG QIAN HUI

From what I observed, the children here are not only encouraged to be independent learners and creative thinkers but also provided with several of such opportunities. The carefree and fun-loving learning environment in Knudsoskolen may come across as a stark contrast with Singapore education system where the curriculum has less time allocated for unstructured play and has a greater emphasis on academic performance.

PHOTOS: NORIDAYU BINTE ROSLAN



countries. By adopting this approach, difficult mathematical concepts are introduced gradually throughout students' elementary (primary) school years.

Despite the similarities, there are also numerous differences in the teaching approach adopted by the two countries. One major difference is the absence of calculator use in Taiwan's elementary mathematics syllabus.

A HEART FOR SERVICE

THE GIFT OF LIFE

• Toh Jopescu
• Year 2, Bachelor of Arts

• PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN, TOH JOPESCU, DEANA SYAZWANI AND JOLENE TAN QIU YIN

From the 24-27 October 2017, the Red Cross Youth NTU Chapter held their Semester 1 blood donation drive. The Service-Learning Club worked in partnership with RCY NTU Chapter to help support this worthy cause. SLC provided much-needed publicity and awareness support by recruiting student teachers to be volunteers for this meaningful event. Also, by publicising the event to the NIE community through targeted efforts such as posters in the NIE and a portal announcement, SLC ensured that the NIE community was kept informed about the blood drive happening in NTU.

Did You Know?

One unit of blood can save up to 3 lives!
An estimated 325 units of blood are needed each day!



Student teachers who signed up as volunteers went through training provided by RCY NTU Chapter to equip them with the knowledge about blood donation and the skills needed to help promote and raise awareness for blood donation to both the NIE and the larger NTU population. Our student teachers also got to interact and work with fellow students from the wider NTU community, learning to work together with people from different backgrounds.

It was heartening to also see student teachers who came down during the drive to support and donate blood. A great big thank you to all the student teachers who came down, as volunteers as well as blood donors, and thanks for making the drive a success!

“This event has taught me a lot about giving and it was a valuable experience that I would not forget. Hopefully, more people are aware of the change they can make through donating blood and helping those in need.”

Hoong Yan
Year 2, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

“This is my second time helping out at the blood drive donation drive, and this time I got to try out something new – to accompany the Blood Buddy! I hope more would aware of the benefits of donating blood and come forward to donate!”

Deana Syazwani
Year 2, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

CE AND LEARNING

PHOTOS: AMANDA SOO



SPEAKER SERIES WITH DR CAROL MA

Sarah Tan
Year 3, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

On 27 August 2017, NIE Service-Learning Club invited Dr Carol Ma for our annual Speaker Series to speak on the importance of reflection in service-learning. Dr Carol Ma is one of the founders of the Office of Service-Learning at Lingnan University, Hong Kong. She served as the Associate Director of Service-Learning and Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Department of Sociology and Social Policy for 10 years before moving to Singapore. Currently, she is the Senior Fellow (Service-Learning) and Senior Lecturer (Common Curriculum) at the Singapore University of Social Sciences.

The speaker series was in line with the Group Endeavours in Service-Learning (GESL) module which all student teachers had to complete. The participants were given insights of what Service-Learning is all about and why reflections are important in the entire Service-Learning process.

“Very insightful and informative. It taught me about the importance of reflection in service-learning.”

Koh Hui Li (Nalanda)
Year 2, Bachelor of Science (Ed)



BANDHUDERA 2017

Amanda Soo
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Education)

In the second year running, the NIE Service-Learning (SL) Club continues to collaborate with HealthServe - an organization which cares for the well-being of migrant workers in Singapore. On the 21st of October, in commemoration of this year's Deepavali, we hosted an appreciation event called "Bandhudera" which meant "Friends" in Bengali. Our aim for this Service-Learning endeavour was to bridge the gap between our student teachers and migrant workers through the participation of various games and activities to promote cross-cultural sharing.

“I was very heartened to see our volunteers and migrant workers bond over games and food. It was a timely reminder for me that the best thing we can give someone is our time.”

Chia Hui Ning
Year 2, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)



PHOTOS: ZULHAQQIM AWARUDDIN

4 TIPS TO ENJOY

PRACTICUM

Practicum is a good time for you to put the theories you have learnt at NIE into practice. Below are a few tips you can follow to experience an enriching practicum:



1 BE TEACHABLE

Work closely with your Cooperating Teachers and learn from them.



2 BE PART OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Be proactive and participate in your school activities.



3 BE STUDENT-CENTRED

Whatever you do, have your students' interest in mind.

4 BE RESPONSIBLE

- Plan your lessons well and on time
- Mark your students' work promptly
- Perform the duties required of a teacher



YOU ARE GOOD TO GO!

Be positive and enjoy your practicum!

Dr Jessie Png | Assistant Dean, Practicum



YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE THIS!

Going for your practicum soon? Check out these cool items that might come in handy during your practicum!

PILOT FRIXION CLICKER

The real pen is a teacher's best friend and should be in every teacher's toolbox. Though it may seem expensive, this pen would be well worth the price. The Pilot Frixion Clicker (left) is a good investment, especially for the beginning teacher. Never miss another embarrassing mistake during your trial-and-error class moments as the erasable gel in the pen allows you to write, erase and rewrite repeatedly without damaging documents. Simply brilliant!



\$32.90
Popular Stores

MUJI MONTHLY PLANNER

You might have heard the popular phrase "failing to plan is planning to fail". A monthly planner comes in exceptionally useful in keeping track of important dates such as key school events and marking lesson observations by your mentors and supervisors. The sleek and minimalist design of the monthly planner from MUJI makes the typical beginning teacher in your school school. Besides, the loose pages within its covers allow you to take notes during your lesson observations. Talk about practicality, right?



From \$37.30
MUJI

CARD CASE WITH LANYARD

Another essential for your practicum kit is a card holder that displays your NIE Sector ID card or any other card that allows you entry into the institution or other facilities in the school. The way to go is a card case that is clear on both sides. While one side displays your identity, the other side can be used to display a mini version of your responsibilities timetable. Since the card case is worn during practicum hours, one look at the back side tells you immediately where and when to go. Never be late for any classes again!



\$31.80
Popular Stores

Choy Seng Hean | Year 3, Bachelor of Arts
Editor-in-chief



WORKS OF ART IN PROGRESS



LIFE IS
A SWEET
CUPCAKE



PHOTOS: CHAU PEARLWE

Better than Edible Cupcakes

• Kho Hui Han
• Year 2, Bachelor of
• Arts (Ed)

On 25th October, Food and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Club held its inaugural Watercolour Workshop. As a club that primarily specializes in the arena of food, FCS Club decided to shake things up by dabbling into art this time. We were pleasantly surprised by the great turnout of participants who were excited to equip themselves with basic watercolour skills and unleash their creativity. Using a wide range of templates and an array of watercolours, participants were taught how to illustrate their artistic expression by painting everyone's favourite dessert – cupcakes! What's more, participants were also able to frame their works of art in the photo frames provided and present them as gifts to their loved ones. Why spend money on buying gifts when you can personalize and customize your own? The FCS Club is heartened by the great turnout and looks forward to engaging the NIE community with the next exciting event!

"I enjoyed the experience painting with watercolour; from learning how to mix colours to eventually painting a cupcake. It was organized and well-executed!"

Chia Hui Ning
Year 2, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

Art Facilitation— Saint Luke's Hospital

• Chia Hui Ning
• Year 2, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

On 28 October 2017, NIE Service-Learning Club organised an art facilitation activity for the patients at Saint Luke's Hospital. 10 NIE Student-Teachers paired up with students from West Spring Secondary and guided patients through the making of a sock stress ball. Prior to the activity, our volunteers had to undergo a volunteer orientation session conducted by the hospital to prepare them with the necessary skills. This ensured that both volunteers and the seniors at the hospital had a lovely time later on.

Patients were engaged in the entire construction of their personalised stress ball – from the initial stage of stuffing cotton wool into the sock to decorating the sock with colourful felt pieces! With a willing heart and open mind, our volunteers also made use of this valuable opportunity to exchange interesting stories with the patients. It was certainly a novel experience for many of our volunteers!

"It was a joy to see both elderly and volunteers laughing and engaging in conversation because indeed, the art activity then became a conversation starter rather than an end-goal!"

Amanda Soo
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

PHOTOS: CHIA HUI NING AND SHANE KWAN



SMALL
ACTS CAN
TRANSFORM
THE WORLD!



LET'S GET ACTIVE!

Lishanth Thangavelu
Year 4, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

Are you Gamed?

The NIE Sports Carnival was held on 3rd October 2017. In its third edition, the NIE Sports Carnival was organised by Physical Education and Sports Science (PESS) Club. This year's edition drew about 100 participants from the various programmes in NIE. The participants had a great time under the scorching sun competing in Captain's Ball and Kin-Ball. During breaks, participants had an enjoyable time kicking around in the bubbles. Despite the rain towards the end, the participants' energy were still high and they fought hard in their final matches. Nevertheless, it was a fun-filled morning for all our participants working up a good sweat with their friends.

Stay tuned for NIE Sports Carnival 2018 as we promise you that it would be even better than before!



OMNIKIN
AND
BUBBLE
SOCCER



PHOTOS: CAROLYN ANGELINA CHAN HUI MING, RALPH PAUL CHAN ZHI WEI & TAUFIQ IZZUDIN BIN JAMALUDIN

“I thought the sports carnival was quite fun! Even though my team didn't really do very well, we went for the experience and to do something fun together and I think we achieved that. It was a nice breather to play around with no stress and no expectations.”

Karina Lalchand Sheri
Year 1, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

“Even though it was my first time at the sports carnival and I was not from PESS, everyone there was very nice and welcoming! I had a wonderful time getting to know more people and just having fun playing the sport!”

Esther Wong Ting Wei
Year 4, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)



SUN,
SWEAT
AND LOADS
OF FUN



GENERAL ELECTIVES: A STEP OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE

Choy Seng Hean
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
Editor-in-chief, Voices

PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED BY INTERVIEWEES

General Electives, also known as GEs to many, can be a joy for some who have a passion for something they love outside their subject specialisations. For this group of student teachers, deciding an appropriate GE would be a breeze. However, to others, it can be a source of a headache to choose from the numerous options available within NIE and in NTU. Fret not, because VOICES has got you covered! In this issue of VOICES, we spoke to some of our friends from NIE to find out some of the hottest GEs they have taken.



“I took Printmaking as a GE because I wanted a hands-on course which required a different skill-set from my current programme. Through printmaking, I have come to appreciate the organic feel in each of the art pieces that I produced. As a GE, printmaking offered me an enriching experience – one that I will remember long after I graduate.”

AAA18A: Print Making
Uuchi Mashaïda
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

“Learning Batik is not just about mixing colours and drawing skills; it teaches and develops one’s self-discipline and problem solving skill through working with art and studio ethics. I took up this module as it relaxes me in the midst of the hectic and busy life of an undergraduate student.”

AAA18M: Batik
Siti Abshah
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)



“I chose this GE because I wanted to take a fun GE that would give me a different perspective on Chemistry. It allowed me to see the pervasiveness of science in everyday life and gave me lots of inspiration for classroom experiments in future! I’d definitely recommend this GE to anyone who enjoys both cooking and science, or who wants to up their cooking game!”

AGQ28B: Everyday Science in Food
Lim Sin Ee Rachel
Year 2, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

“Netball has always been a sport I wanted to learn, and since NIE offered it, I took it up! It was super fun to learn the basics and rules. It was very intimidating at the start as I came in totally clueless about the sport and everyone else was already good at it! But it is a really good way to keep fit and to learn something new! Highly recommended!”

SS9106: Netball
Choo Mei Fang
Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)



FROM TTC TO YOU

Goh Wei Ting Sandy
Year 1, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

Johan Ezran
Year 4, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)



The biannual Welfare Pack Giveaway, organized by the Trainee Teachers' Club (TTC), came around once again to give student teachers a respite from the upcoming examination period. This year's Welfare Pack Giveaway theme, "Zero to Hero", featured a superhero themed photo booth with props relating to the different superheroes. The photo booth was a hit with the student teachers as they queued with their friends to receive free polaroid pictures taken by the photographers from TTC.

This year, all 500 welfare packs were given out. Each welfare pack contains snacks and drinks such as Oreos, Yeo's packet drinks and instant coffee sachets, which are supplements to help student-teachers during their examination preparation, as well as useful items from our sponsors which include notebooks and foolscap pads as well as a wide array of vouchers for student-teachers to enjoy post-examination activities. In addition to the welfare pack, TTC specially rented a snack booth from PartyMojo which provided complimentary snacks such as cotton candy and popcorn made freshly on the spot for student-teachers and staff.

In addition, the semestral NIE Merchandise Sale was held on the 27th - 29th September 2017. This semester, the vibrant colours of the Halloween event influenced the colour scheme. A unique colour combination of orange and grey, as well as purple and grey raglan shirts, were sold alongside the limited edition black and silver shirts.

Organized by the 26th Trainee Teachers' Club (TTC) management committee and assisted by the newly appointed 27th TTC committee, the sale ran three hours on each day. By working closely together, new knowledge was built upon traditional methods and procedures of running the semestral merchandise sale.

There was an overwhelming response for the limited design t-shirts that they were sold within an hour. Queues were formed more than half an hour before the start of the sale at the Function Hall in the Uid, showing how popular the t-shirts were. By utilising the Uid for the event, the TTC will be taking the lead to use the Uid for future events together with her subsidiary clubs to create a more vibrant student hub in NIE.

If you missed the opportunity to get one this year, you may look forward to next year's sale in February 2018. It will feature a winning design by a fellow student teacher alongside our standard varsity design. Do check out TTC Facebook and Instagram for further updates on voting the design of your choice!



PHOTOS: KHO HUI HAN

BSC CLUB PRESENTS



PHOTOS: CHAU PEARLWE

Lost in the Stars

• Chau Pearlwe
• Year 2, Bachelor of Science

If you look up at the night sky and see specks of stars scattered amongst the sky, count your lucky stars. Stars and planets appear in the skies above us every night, dotting the celestial landscape like tiny sparkles. This year, the Bachelor of Science Club (BSc Club) collaborated with the NTU Astronomical Society (NTUAS) to bring this beautiful experience to the NIE and NTU community once again!

Unfortunately, the heavy rain washed away the chances of stargazing, but it did not dampen the enthusiasm of our participants. Despite not being able to observe these constellations themselves, participants were able to learn more about astronomy through the sharing session by the representatives of NTUAS through the photos of the planets and constellations they have taken.

“The stargazing event was an eye-opening experience! Despite the bad weather, the other activities, like the Shrinky Dinks, were great! On the whole, it was a really good session! A highly recommended event!”

Toh Jopescu
Year 2, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)

Sciencekidz – H.E.A.L Ver 2.0

• Chia Hui Ning
• Year 3, Bachelor of Science (Ed)

On the 23 June 2017, the BSc club organized H.E.A.L 2.0. Following last year’s success of our Healthy Eating Active Living program, we launched a more impactful event this year!

We invited 20 students from Sunbeam Place, aged between 7-12 years old for a simple one day workshop of fun and excitement. The workshop comprised of two engaging segments: a healthy snack making session and a funky dance work out session. The workshop had simple yet achievable objectives which included learning about energy balance, making a healthy snack and also using dance as a form of exercise. Students were engaged in an interactive snack making activity where they crafted their own healthy snack. They had loads of fun making peanut butter and banana energy bites and also cranberry sunflower seeds energy bites. Through this, the students were made more aware of healthier choice ingredients and the nutritional needs of their age group.

Later, they were treated to a simple funky dance session where they learnt to develop a healthy lifestyle and incorporate exercising as a natural part of their daily lives. This simple yet fun activity integrates confidence and coordination into the students, which are all key childhood development elements.

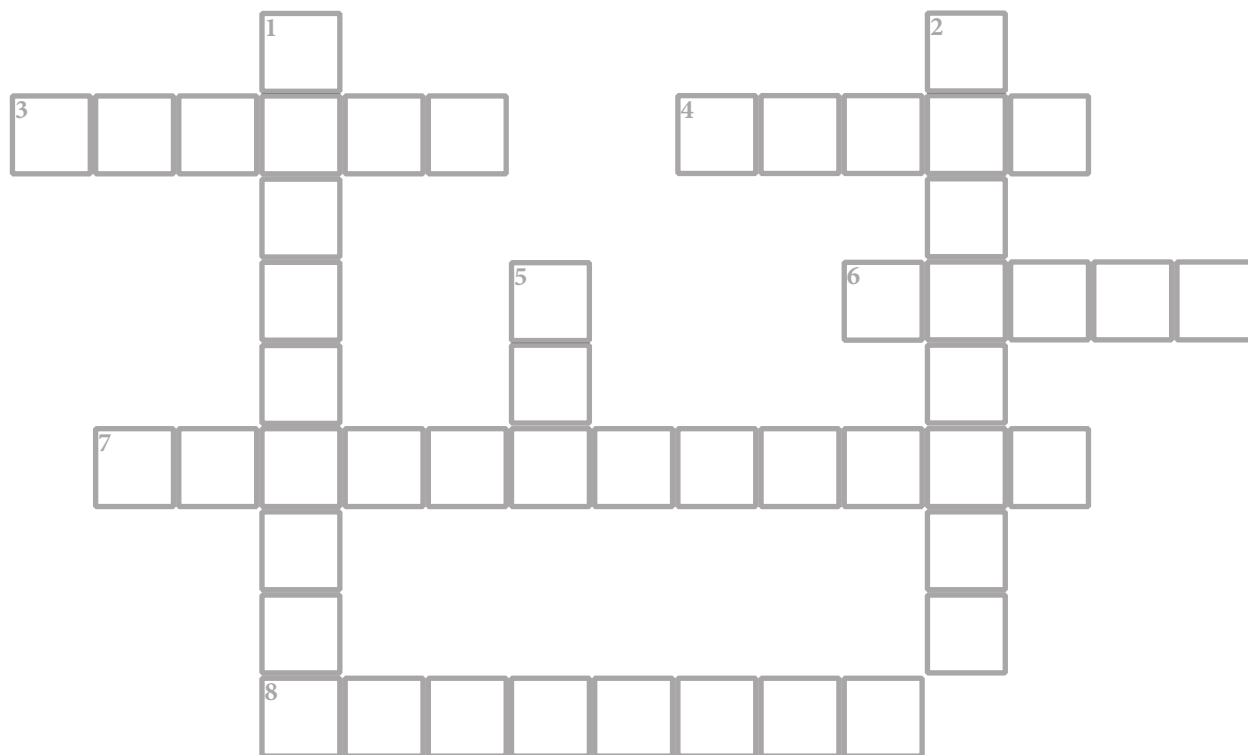
PHOTOS: CHIN HUI MIN, VANESSA



TRY SOLVING THIS!



• Choy Seng Hean
• Year 3, Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
• Editor-in-chief, Voices



Across

- 3) Participants of the 2017 Freshmen Orientation Programme were grouped into the different incarnation of the Ancient Egyptian Gods, namely "Horomis", "Rakasis", _____ and "Anubis".
- 4) A word which refers to a small close-knit group of friends who do not readily allow others to join them.
- 6) One unit of blood can save up to _____ lives.
- 7) NTUAS stands for NTU _____ Society.
- 8) The Pilot Frixion pen has a _____ gel ink, which becomes invisible when exposed to heat generated by friction.

Down

- 1) Dr Jessie Png reminds student teachers going for practicum to be _____ and participate in school activities.
- 2) Joshua Lim believes that education opens _____ and opportunities for people.
- 5) In the NIE Sports Carnival 2017, participants competed in Captain's Ball and _____ -Ball.



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 you might be featured in our next issue!





UPCOMING

EVENTS BY
CLUB AND FOR
CLUBS

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



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Lishanth Thangavelu

Nazirul Zan

Ng Qian Hui

Noridayu Binte Roslan

Sarah Tan

Toh Jopescu

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.pe.nie.edu.sg/WEILLNESS.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 Z) at the National Institute of Education.